



REBELS' JCIT 3-PEAT HOPES SHATTERED IN FINALS **PAGE B1**

THE MADISON COURIER

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2024 *Serving the Courier area since 1837* NEWSSTAND • \$1.25

YEAR IN REVIEW

Solar dominated conversations in 2024

BY BOB DEMAREE

Even though 2024 was an election year, the topic that seemed to draw the most conversation locally wasn't politics but solar energy that in the end was rejected by both city and county.

The topic hit the forefront in June when Aypa Power's plans for a \$150 million power storage facility on Madison's hill-top included a request to utilize 1,000 acres of nearby land for solar operations.

But after contentious debate at a 2-1/2-hour meeting of Madison's Plan Commission in June, an unfavorable recommendation was made to City Council with a unanimous vote of the five commission members in attendance with four members not in attendance. The matter came before City Council in September resulting in a 4-3 vote to follow the Plan Commission's recommendation and deny the solar operation.



Dawn Jines (left holding scissors) and Robyn Meek, Dupont clerk-treasurer (right holding scissors) together cut the ribbon for the Dupont Community Park's grand opening in March.

There was also a solar application for Saluda Township in Jefferson County that last month also failed to receive approval. Orion Renewable Energy Group LLC had proposed an \$850 million project near Paynesville. Called the Idlewild Solar Project, approximately 20 property owners had agreed to lease land where approximately 472 megawatts of energy would be generated. The solar project would cover 3,324 acres with 2,050 acres of solar panels fenced inside of the larger buffer zone.

SEE **REVIEW/PAGE A6**



The marquee lights were switched back on at the Ohio Theatre in June and the party began. Larry Ricci (right) won a drawing to flip the switch. Pictured in front (from left) are Madison Mayor Bob Courtney, Friends of the Ohio Theatre president Elizabeth Auxier, Jefferson County board member on Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority Kevin Kellems, City of Madison Economic Development Director Tony Steinhardt, Friend of the Ohio Theatre vice president Charles Requet, and Ricci.

O'Connor closes out family legacy as she departs as county recorder

Family has 48 years of consecutive service

BY BOB DEMAREE

Since 1977, there has always been an O'Connor working in the Jefferson County Courthouse but when Molly O'Connor finishes her day at the County Recorder's office Tuesday, Dec. 31, her family's 48 years of consecutive service will come to an end.

It's also the end of the Democratic party's 48-year hold on that office with the election of Republican Amy Storms Stephens.

O'Connor, the Recorder since 2017, will be completing her second four-year term and then going into retirement. Prior to that, she worked eight years as a deputy in the County Treasurer's office (1993-2000) and 16 years as a deputy in the County Recorder's office (2001-2016). Altogether, O'Connor has 32 years of service at the Courthouse, matching her mother Mary Frances O'Connor who served 16 years as County Treasurer (1977-1984 and 1993-2000) and 16 years as County Recorder (1985-1992 and 2001-2008).

And in addition to that, Molly O'Connor's father, John Ready O'Connor was elected Prosecutor in 1954, serving two terms through 1962, representing Jefferson and Switzerland counties. He won his first term just one year after moving to Madison in 1953, previously serving as deputy attorney general for the state of Indiana from 1950 to 1953.

"Mom and dad were big on public service and it does kind of get in your blood. I was lucky," said O'Connor.

The County Recorder's primary duty is to record and preserve legal documents that affect real estate ownership, such as deeds, mortgages, liens, leases and plats.

"It's not an exciting office," said O'Connor. "The work can



Molly O'Connor will close out 32 years of service — and the Democratic party's 48-year hold on the Jefferson County Recorder's office — when she retires Tuesday, Dec. 31, 2024, and hands the office over to Republican Amy Stephens. "It's time to pass it along," said O'Connor. "I always called myself 'the thing that wouldn't leave.' Well, the thing that wouldn't leave is leaving now ... I've worked with and met a lot of nice people."

be tedious. Every recorder says we are the red headed step children of county government."

But she said it is important work, where the history of properties in Jefferson County can be found.

Finding that history has led O'Connor to take on special projects that aren't required of the County Recorder with requests she gets from the public asking for details about the background of properties.

"I learned how to do it, and got better at it than when I first started doing it," she said. "Sometimes people would be surprised because I could do it within a day but sometimes there would be brick walls that I ran into, and it would take a week or so."

But whatever research that might have been done in the County Recorder's office, O'Connor would suggest they take that information to the Jefferson County Public Library to

look at the Sanborn Fire Insurance maps to find out what kind of structure might have been there.

"It was a good team effort all around," said O'Connor, on her collaboration with Camille Fife, local history advisor at the library, and the Jefferson County Historical Society, in helping people to find answers about the history of properties, a task particularly significant in Madison where history is such an interest and asset to the community.

"It's the beauty of the town. Everything is still kind of as it was. It interests people and I was happy to do it for them," she said.

A 1981 graduate of Shawe Memorial High School, O'Connor had various jobs before working for the county government including Citizens National Bank and the Bridal Shop.

SEE **LEGACY/PAGE A8**

Carter, the 39th US president, has died at 100

BY BILL BARROW AND ALEX SANZ
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Jimmy Carter, the peanut farmer who won the presidency in the wake of the Watergate scandal and Vietnam War, endured humbling defeat after one tumultuous term and then redefined life after the White House as a global humanitarian, has died. He was 100 years old.

The longest-lived American president died on Sunday, roughly 22 months after entering hospice care, at his home in the small town of Plains, Georgia, where he and his wife, Rosalynn, who died at 96 in November 2023, spent most of their lives, The Carter Center said.

"Our founder, former U.S. President Jimmy Carter, passed away this afternoon in Plains, Georgia," the center said on the social media platform X. It added in a statement that he died peacefully, surrounded by his family.

As reaction poured in from around the world, President Joe Biden mourned Carter's death, saying the world lost an "extraordinary leader, statesman and humanitarian" and he lost a dear friend. Biden cited Carter's work to eradicate disease, forge peace, advance civil and human rights, promote free and fair elections and house the homeless as an example for others.

"To all of the young people in this nation and for anyone in search of what it means to live a life of purpose and meaning — the good life — study Jimmy Carter, a man of principle, faith, and humility," Biden said in a statement.

Biden spoke later Sunday evening about Carter, calling it a "sad day" but one that "brings back an incredible amount of good memories."

"I've been hanging out with Jimmy Carter for over 50 years," Biden said in his remarks.

He recalled the former president being a comfort to him

and his wife Jill when their son Beau died in 2015 of cancer. The president remarked how cancer was a common bond between their families, with Carter himself having cancer later in his life.

"Jimmy knew the ravages of the disease too well," said Biden, who scheduled a state funeral in Washington, D.C., for Carter on Jan. 9.

Biden also declared Jan. 9 as a National Day of Mourning across the nation and ordered U.S. flags to fly at half-staff for 30 days from Sunday.

Businessman, Navy officer, evangelist, politician, negotiator, author, woodworker, citizen of the world — Carter forged a path that still challenges political assumptions and stands out among the 45 men who reached the nation's highest office. The 39th president leveraged his ambition with a keen intellect, deep religious faith and prodigious work ethic, conducting diplomatic missions into his 80s and building houses for the poor well into his 90s.

"My faith demands — this is not optional — my faith demands that I do whatever I can, wherever I am, whenever I can, for as long as I can, with whatever I have to try to make a difference," Carter once said.

A PRESIDENT FROM PLAINS

A moderate Democrat, Carter entered the 1976 presidential race as a little-known Georgia governor with a broad smile, outspoken Baptist mores and technocratic plans reflecting his education as an engineer. His no-frills campaign depended on public financing, and his promise not to deceive the American people resonated after Richard Nixon's disgrace and U.S. defeat in southeast Asia.

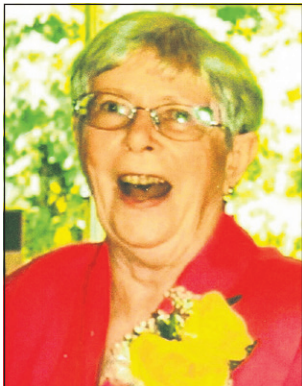
"If I ever lie to you, if I ever make a misleading statement, don't vote for me. I would not deserve to be your president,"

SEE **CARTER/PAGE A8**

OBITUARIES

Patricia Ellen (Noble) Norris

Patricia Ellen (Noble) Norris, 91, of New Albany, IN., formerly of Westerville, OH, Newburgh, IN, and Hendersonville, NC, passed away Dec. 24, 2024, at Baptist Health Floyd Hospital. She was born on Feb. 15, 1933, in Westerville, OH, to the late Virgil and Dorotha (Tippy) Noble. In addition to her parents, she is preceded in death by her brother, Lester Dean Noble. Patricia is survived



by her husband of 69 years,

James Edward Norris, a son Douglas James Norris of Brooklyn Park, MN, a daughter, Kathy Ellen Rohlfing of Madison, IN, 4 grandchildren and 4 great grandchildren. Patty graduated from Otterbein College, Westerville, OH, was a devout Christian, enjoyed playing bridge and cheering for The Ohio State Buckeyes. But most of all, she enjoyed her

grandchildren and great grandchildren. Services are private and under the direction of Kraft Funeral Service, 708 East Spring Street, New Albany, IN, 47150. Expressions of sympathy, in lieu of flowers, donations in memorium are suggested to the Alzheimer's Association, 6100 Dutchmans Lane, Suite 401, Louisville, KY, 40205.

Arline Gullion

Arline Gullion, 85, of Rexville, IN, passed away at 4 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 26, 2024, at the Norton King's Daughters' Health in Madison. She was born at Millers Branch in Trimble County, KY, on Oct. 25, 1939, the daughter of Raymond and Ruby Williams O'Neal. She was married to Doug Gullion on June 10, 1960, and he preceded her in death on March 9, 2000.



Survivors include three sons Ronnie Gayle (Carolyn) Gullion of North Vernon, Roger Gayle (Gena) Gullion of Dewberry, and Rodney Gale (Sara) Gullion of Rexville; one daughter Robin Gail Cull (Mark Campbell) of Madison; grandchildren Christian Cull, Kevin, Justin, Andy, and Amanda Gullion, and Lyric Bettis; three brothers Frankie (Donna) O'Neal, Darrell (Lisa) O'Neal, and Larry (Donna) O'Neal all of Bedford, KY; three sisters Eula Bea Clem of La Grange, KY, Mona Rose of Carrollton, KY, and Francis Kay Smith of Milton, KY. She was preceded in death by her parents, her brother Dale O'Neal, and her sisters Nancy Anderson, Brenda O'Neal and Betsy O'Neal. Mrs. Gullion was a 1958 graduate of Trimble County High School. She and Doug were best known in the community for their Country Swap Shop that they owned and operated in Rexville for over 50 years. Arline enjoyed playing cards, especially euchre, reading and following UK basketball. She was a member of the Tanglewood Baptist Church and a former member of New Marian Baptist Church where she was a Sunday School teacher for more than 30 years, as well as the Sunday School secretary and church clerk. Funeral services were held on Monday, Dec. 30 at 11 a.m. at the Stratton-Karsteter Funeral Home in Versailles with Stephen Mullins officiating. Burial was in the Grandview Memorial Garden near Madison. Visitation was on Sunday from 4 to 7 p.m. Memorials can be given to the Mt. Herman Baptist Church or the Versailles American Legion Auxiliary in care of the funeral home.

Carolyn Sue Proctor Beatty

May 7th, 1960 — Dec. 24th, 2024

Remembering the loving heart of Carolyn Sue Proctor Beatty, whose welcoming spirit and unwavering support brought warmth to everyone she met. She had a way of making everyone feel welcomed and valued. Her kindness and love will live in this world forever. Carolyn had a profound

impact on everyone she knew. She was dedicated in life in raising her children and grandchildren. Carloyn was an incredible woman, loving mother, devoted grandmother, cherished sister and a dear friend. Her grandchildren called her Meme and she will be forever remembered as Meme. Carolyn was proceeded in death by her daughter

Carrie Rae Beatty, mother Betty Proctor, and brother William Proctor. She is survived by her son Raymond Daniel Beatty JR, three granddaughters Lauren Kirsten Beatty, Taylor Rae Beatty, and Harlee Raylin Beatty. Three siblings Tommy Proctor, Marsha Thompson, and Penny Keithley. Carolyn's spirit will forever shine bright.

Deborah (Harter) Margison

Deborah (Harter) Margison, age 76, of Vevay, IN, entered this life on Dec. 26, 1947, in New Castle, IN. She was the loving daughter of the late, William Warren and Patricia Ann (Butner) Harter. Deborah passed away peacefully with her loving family by her side

on Monday, Dec. 23, 2024, at her residence. Deborah leaves behind to cherish her memory her loving husband, Ronald Lee Margison of Vevay, IN; her son, Zeb Margison and his wife, Jessica of Vevay, IN; her granddaughter, Zaylee Margison of Vevay, IN; her sister, Billie Ann Harter of Anderson,

IN and many nieces, nephews, and cousins. She was preceded in death by her father, William Warren Harter; her mother, Patricia Ann (Butner) Harter, and her brother, Randy Warren Harter. A Celebration of Deborah's Life will be held at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Women's Giving Circle. Cards are available at the funeral home, or online at www.haskellandmorrison.com. Dear Lord, you got one of the best ever. Take good care of her until we meet again....

SEE OBITUARIES/PAGE A3

Big Lots reaches deal to keep 400 stores open

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The discount chain Big Lots, which filed for bankruptcy protection in September, has reached a deal that will keep hundreds of its stores and distribution centers open. Big Lots said Friday it will be sold to Gordon Brothers Retail Partners, a firm that specializes in distressed companies.

Gordon Brothers will then transfer Big Lots' stores, distribution centers and other assets to other retailers. Variety Wholesalers Inc., which owns more than 400 discount stores in the U.S. Southeast and Mid-Atlantic regions, plans to acquire between 200 and 400 Big Lots stores and operate them

under the Big Lots brand. Variety Wholesalers will also acquire up to two distribution centers. There is a Big Lots store in Madison at 1345 Clifty Drive that currently has a "closing" sign in front of the building in which there is no certainty whether it might be among the stores that might remain open.

"This sale agreement and transfer present the strongest opportunity to preserve jobs, maximize value for the estate and ensure continuity of the Big Lots brand," Big Lots President and CEO Bruce Thorn said in a statement. "We are grateful to our associates nationwide for their grit and resilience throughout this process."

Columbus, Ohio-based Big Lots sells furniture, home decor and other items. When it filed for bankruptcy in September, it said inflation and high interest rates caused consumers to pull back on their purchases of home and seasonal products, two categories the chain depends on for a significant part of its revenue.

At the time, Big Lots planned to sell its assets and ongoing business operations to private equity firm Nexus Capital Management. But on Dec. 20, Big Lots said the deal with Nexus didn't materialize. It then partnered with Gordon Brothers to conduct going-out-of-business sales at its 869 U.S. locations.

NEWS OF RECORD

JEFFERSON COUNTY CRIMINAL JUSTICE CENTER Lodgings December 27, 2024

Jeffery Thomas Crawford, 23, Ghent, Kentucky, on a Jefferson County warrant for Failure to Appear (theft, possession of marijuana). Bond \$2005 cash. Daniel A. Cyrus, 38, Madison, to serve 2 days jail, consecutive. No bond. Eric De Shawn Nicholson, 47, Madison, for Resisting Law Enforcement, a Level 6 felony. No bond. December 29, 2024 Robert G. Bushong, 54,

Madison, for Theft, a Class A misdemeanor; and on a warrant to hold for another county. No bond. Jonathon Michael Way, 35, Lexington, Indiana, on a writ of body attachment warrant for Madison County, Indiana. No bond.

REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS Jefferson County December 26, 2024

Janet Lee Allen to Stephen S. Allen, 523 Phillips Lane, Madison. Stephen S. Allen to Amy A. Torres (transferee death), 523

Phillips Lane, Madison. Thomas M. Taylor to Bailee K. Taylor and Bailee K. Chilman, 5 acres at 15017 West 366 North, Deputy. Kathryn A. Roy to Kathryn L. Roy, 743 West Third Street, Madison. Henry J. Southerland, Elizabeth Copeland Southerland and Elizabeth A. Southerland to Henry J. Southerland and Elizabeth A. Southerland (revocable living trust), 2 acres at 1450+ East Camp Meeting Road, Madison. Henry J. Southerland, Elizabeth Copeland Southerland and Elizabeth A. Southerland

to Henry J. Southerland and Elizabeth A. Southerland (revocable living trust), approximately 6.9 acres at 1450+ East Camp Meeting Road, Madison. Donald William Varble and Shirley Varble (estate) to Pamela Dyer, John Varble, Darcy Sommermeyer, David Varble and Donald William Varble (tenants common), 108 Jackson Lane, Hanover. I & B Properties LLC to Rebecca Whisman, approximately 4.4 acres at 4066 North 933 West Deputy. 414 LLC to Beth U. Owens, 412 East Third Street, Madison.

Beth U. Owens to Signature Property Group, 414 East Third Street, Madison. Calvin Daugherty to Colton Edward Fox and Lea Shipman-Fox, 9011 West State Road 56, Lexington. Matalin N. Staser and Matalin N. Staser-Miller to Matalin N. Staser-Miller, 5637 South 850 West, Lexington. John E.J. Hilty and Lucy V. Hilty to Henry D. Eicher, Josephine E. Eicher and Henry J.H. Eicher two parcels totaling approximately 27 acres at 2000+ 1100 North, Lexington.

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CLASSIFIED DEADLINES

2:30 p.m. Friday for Tuesday issue Noon Monday for Thursday issue Noon Thursday for Saturday issue

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WEATHER

Sunrise: 7:58 a.m. Sunset: 5:31 p.m. Temperature: High 51, Low 46, Mean 48.5, Excess 9.4 Precipitation since last published: 1.76 Precipitation, December 2024: 4.36 Precipitation, 2024: 44.50 Barometer: 29.71, Steady River Level at Clifty Creek: 426.25, Falling Forecast: Wednesday (New Year's Day): Cloudy High 35/Low 26; Thursday: Partly cloudy High 38/Low 31; Friday: Partly cloudy High 35/Low 21; Saturday: Partly cloudy High 33/Low 23; Sunday: Snow showers High 32/Low 24.

LOTTERY

INDIANA Hoosier Lotto: 2-26-32-40-41-42 (12/28). Next Estimated Jackpot: \$34.8 million. Next Drawing (1/1). Cash Five: 1-4-20-22-34 (12/29) Cash 4 Life: 3-13-28-42-48 CB: 4 (12/29) KENTUCKY Cash Ball: 1-21-29-35 CB 9 (12/29) Lucky For Life: 7-18-26-35-38 LB: 1 (12/29) MEGAMILLIONS: 3-7-37-49-55 MB: 6, MP 3 (12/27). One winning ticket sold for \$1.22 billion jackpot in California. Next Jackpot: \$20 million. Next Drawing (12/31) POWERBALL: 6-31-51-54-55 PB: 12, PP 2 (12/28). Next Estimated Jackpot: \$163 million. Next Drawing (12/30) POWERBALL DOUBLE PLAY: 22-40-42-54-68 PB: 7 (12/28). Next Estimated Jackpot: Up to \$10 million. Next Drawing (12/30)

BIRTHDAYS

Editor's Note: Got a birthday or anniversary coming up? Send name, date and number of years (optional) to zelda@madisoncourier.com or call 812-265-3641. Please leave your name and phone number in case we have followup questions.

BIRTHDAYS

January 3 Amy Slayden Anderson Kellie Spoonamore-Gullion January 4 Theresa Scroggins January 6 Jarvis Jenkins January 8 Mary Jo McClelland January 9 Sharon Ogden January 10 Larami King

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OBITUARIES

Evon Ralston Gray

Evon Ralston Gray, age 87, of Pleasant, IN, entered this life on Dec. 8, 1937, in Switzerland County, IN. He was the son of the late Maurice F. and Mary Margaret (Ralston) Gray. Evon passed away at 6:09 a.m., Tuesday, Dec. 24, 2024, after a brief rehab stay at the Swiss Villa Nursing & Rehabilitation Center in Vevay, IN.

Evon will be deeply missed by his loving wife, Reta Rae (Cole) Gray of Pleasant, IN; his sons, Jeffrey Gray and his companion, Diana Brown of

Pleasant, IN, and Tracy Gray and his wife, Tammy of Pleasant, IN; his grandchildren, April Konkle and her husband, Jeremy, Joei Gray, Noel Gray and his wife, Bridgett, Tanner Gray and his wife, Cayli, Taylor Savage and her husband, Michael, and Treyton Gray; his great-grandchildren, McKayla Oeffinger, Kaiden Konkle, Kristina Oeffinger, Kenley Konkle, Kyla Fieler, Colton Konkle, Axel Gray, Jaxon Gray, Grayson Savage, Archie Gray, Maisley

Savage and Bodie Gray; his brother, Leon Gray and his wife, Alice of Pleasant, IN; his sisters-in-law and brother-in-law, Pat Slack of East Enterprise, IN, and Barbara June and Bob Rice of Biggs, CA, and his several nieces, nephews, and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his father, Maurice F. Gray; his mother, Mary Margaret (Ralston) Gray, and his nephew, Robert Darin Slack.

Visitation was held from 5 — 8 p.m., Monday, Dec. 30,

2024, at the Haskell & Morrison Funeral Home, 208 Ferry Street, Vevay, IN, 47043.

Funeral services will be conducted at 11 a.m., Tuesday, Dec. 31, 2024, at the Haskell & Morrison Funeral Home, 208 Ferry Street, Vevay, IN, 47043.

Interment will follow in the Caledonia Cemetery near Moorefield, IN.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Caledonia Cemetery. Cards are available at the funeral home, or online, at www.haskellandmorrison.com.

Dalton Keith Skirvin

Dalton Keith Skirvin, age 27, of Madison, IN, entered this life on May 30, 1997, in Madison, IN. He was the son of Brian Keith Skirvin and Yatisha Faye Scholl. Dalton died on Thursday, Dec. 26, 2024, at 3:53 a.m. in Madison, IN.

Dalton will be missed by his father, Brian Keith Skirvin of Madison, IN; his mother, Yatisha Faye Scholl of Madison, IN; his daughter, Adalynn Kay Ann Skirvin; his brothers, Kyle Skirvin of Madison, IN, Shay Truesdell of Madison, IN, Brian Michael Skirvin and his wife, Laken of Madison, IN, Jacob Skirvin of Madison, IN; his maternal grandmothers, Autumn Hoover of Commiskey, IN, and Rhonda Scholl; his nephew and his niece, Bentlee Skirvin, Jaxson Skirvin and Harleigh Skirvin; his uncles and his aunts, Janet and Jeff Lewis, Rick Cole, Timmy and Angela Cole, Richard and Joann Skirvin, Kelly and Michael Craddock, Megan Scholl, Michael Young, and Tyler

Bennett; many cousins and other relatives. He was preceded in death by his paternal grandfather, Rheuben Skirvin, his paternal grandmother, Mary Helen Willhoite, his maternal grandpa, Michael Scholl, and his brother, Kaleb Adam Skirvin.

Funeral services will be conducted Friday, Jan. 10, 2025, at 1 p.m., by Pastor Scott Kollmann at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centre, 325 Demaree Drive in Madison, IN. Interment will follow in the Springdale Cemetery, 600 West Fifth Street in downtown Madison, IN.

Friends may visit Friday, Jan. 10, 2025, from 11 a.m. — 1 p.m., at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centre in Madison.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Dalton Skirvin Remembrance Fund. Cards are available at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centres of Madison, and Hanover. Online condolences, remembrances, and memorials, can be left at www.morgan-nay.com.

Larry Keith Gray

Larry Keith Gray, age 84, of Madison, IN, entered this life on Nov. 4, 1940, in Ripley County on Laughery Creek near Versailles. He was the loving son of the late Rufus Earl and Mildred Bess Etherton Gray. Keith died on Tuesday, Dec. 24, 2024, at his home in Madison, IN.

Keith will be missed by his loving daughter, Cindy Gray Carter and her husband, Steve of Madison, IN; his loving grandchildren, Wyatt Carter and his wife, Katelyn and

Kealyn Jester and her husband, Richard; his great grandchildren, Dawson, Leeah Kate, Colton, and Alaina; his brother, Rick Lee Gray of Canaan, Indiana; his cousin, Wilbur Weare and his wife, Carol of Lady Lake, FL; his very good friends who would check in on him, Jimmy and Ron, both of Madison, IN; other relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by his father, Rufus Earl Gray; his mother, Mildred Bess Etherton Gray; his wife of 38 years, Betty J.

Adams Gray, died Nov. 25, 2017, his brother, Ralph Earl Gray, and his still born sister, Martha Gray.

Funeral services will be conducted Thursday, Jan. 2, 2025, at 1 p.m., by Bro. Bob Hicks at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centre, 325 Demaree Drive in Madison, IN. Interment will follow in the Olive Branch Cemetery in Madison, IN.

Friends may visit Thursday, Jan. 2, 2025, from 11 a.m. — 1 p.m., at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centre, 325

Demaree Drive in Madison.

A final salute with military honors will be provided by the Major Samuel Woodfill Post No. 9 of the American Legion.

Memorial contributions may be made to Coffee Creek Conservation Club for a shoot in his memory. Cards are available at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centres of Madison, and Hanover. Online condolences, remembrances, and memorials, can be left at www.morgan-nay.com.

Kaleb Adam Skirvin

Kaleb Adam Skirvin, age 29, of Madison, IN, entered this life on Feb. 14, 1995, in Madison, IN. He was the son of Brian Keith Skirvin and Joyce Jackson. Kaleb died on Thursday, Dec. 26, 2024, at 3:53 a.m. in Madison, IN.

Kaleb will be missed by his father, Brian Keith Skirvin of Madison, IN; his mother, Joyce Jackson of Lexington, IN; his brothers, Kyle Skirvin of Madison, IN, Shay Truesdell of Madison, IN, Brian Michael Skirvin and his wife, Laken of Madison, IN, Jacob Skirvin of Madison, IN; his sister, Sarah Lettney of Milwaukee, WI; his nieces and his nephews, Bentlee Skirvin, Adalynn Kay Ann Skirvin, Jaxson Skirvin, and Harleigh Skirvin; his maternal grandmother, Beverly Kramer of Madison, IN; his uncles and his aunts, Janet and Jeff Lewis, Rick Cole, Timmy and Angela Cole, Richard and Joann Skirvin, Shane and Keri Jackson; and several cousins and other relatives.

He was preceded in death by his maternal grandpa, Gary Russell Jackson, his paternal grandpa, Rheuben Skirvin, his paternal grandma, Mary Hellen Willhoite, his brother, Dalton Keith Skirvin.

Funeral services will be conducted Saturday, Jan. 4, 2025, at 1 p.m., by Pastor Scott Kollman at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centre, 325 Demaree Drive in Madison, IN. Interment will follow in the Sharon Hill Cemetery near Hanover, IN.

Friends may visit Saturday, Jan. 4, 2025, from 11 a.m. — 1 p.m., at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centre, 325 Demaree Drive in Madison.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Kaleb Adams Skirvin Remembrance Fund. Cards are available at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centres of Madison, and Hanover. Online condolences, remembrances, and memorials, can be left at www.morgan-nay.com.

William ‘Billy’ Law, Jr.

William “Billy” Law, Jr., age 87, of Madison, IN, entered this life on Dec. 5, 1937, in Trimble County, KY. He was the loving son of the late William A. and Bessie Miles Law. He was a loving husband, dad, grandpa, great grandpa, brother, and friend. Billy died on Friday, Dec. 27, 2024, at 1:33 p.m., at the Norton King’s Daughters’ Hospital in Madison, IN.

Billy will be missed by his loving wife of 67 years, Gwendolyn Kay Ritchie Law of Madison, IN; his sons, Dean Law and his wife Mary of Madison, IN, William David Law and his wife Debbie of Madison, IN, Douglas Law and his wife Becky of Madison, IN; his daughter, Dianna McAlister of Madison,

IN; his grandchildren, Katelin Law (Zachariah Daniel), MiKayla Law (Nick Gordon), Jamie Hon (Danny), David Law (Heather) Emily Law (Jacob Bruner), Andrew Law (Tiffany), Jeremy Law (Lynette), Aja Bridgewater (Jason), Brandy Ellis (Brad), Kaylee Wiley (Shawn), Steven Schmidt (Jami); his great-grandchildren, Jace, Haven, Vinlee, Maverick, Holland, Brittany, Danny Jr., Donovan, Stacy, Tyler, Torii, Brooklynn, Ahlalah, Silas, Clara, Wyatt, Emerson, Lexie, Keith, Ethan, Erika, Tanner, Logan, Elijah, Easton, Braeden, Grace; 13 great-great-grandchildren; his sister, Edna Murphy of Northern, IN; several nieces,

nephews, and other relatives.

He was preceded in death by father, William A. Law, mother, Bessie Miles Law, his brothers, Frank “Bud” Law, and Kenneth Lee Law in infancy, his sisters, Ora Lee Law in infancy, Louise Law Hartman, and Mary Elizabeth Law Bullock, Emogene Konkle, and Pauline Roberts; his father in law, Howard O. Ritchie; his mother in law, Helen L. Wehner Ritchie; his brothers in law, Charles Frederick Ritchie, and Darryl Howard Ritchie.

Funeral services will be conducted on Friday, Jan. 3, 2025, at 11 a.m., by Pastor Troy Hedges at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centre, 325 Demaree Drive, In Madison, IN. Interment will follow in the Indiana Veterans Memorial

Cemetery, 1415 North Gate Road in Madison.

Friends may visit on Thursday, Jan. 2, 2025 from 4. — 7 p.m., and Friday from 10 a.m. until the time of service at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centre, 325 Demaree Drive in Madison.

A final salute with military honors will be provided by the Major Samuel Woodfill Post No. 9 of the American Legion.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Wirt Baptist Church or Parkinson’s Research. Cards are available at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centres of Madison, and Hanover. Online condolences, remembrances, and memorials, can be left at www.morgan-nay.com.

DEATH NOTICES

Donald C. “Donnie” Clark, 78, of Campbellsburg, KY, died Wednesday, Dec. 25, 2024, at the Robley Rex VA Medical Center in Louisville. He was a U.S. Army veteran of the Vietnam War. Funeral service is 1 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 31 at Ransdell Funeral Home in Campbellsburg, with burial in Sulphur Cemetery in Sulphur, Ky, www.ransdellfuneral.com.

Tracie Lea Phillips Johnston, 50, of Indianapolis, IN, formerly of Madison, and Hanover, died on Thursday, Dec. 26, 2024, at the Iu Health West Hospital. Funeral arrangements will be announced by the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centres of Madison, and Hanover, IN, www.morgan-nay.com. **Maedelle Miller, 83**, Carrollton, KY, died Monday, Dec. 23, 2024,

in Carrollton. Funeral service is at 1 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 31, at Tandy-Eckler-Riley Funeral Home in Carrollton. Burial was Monday, Dec. 30, at Squiresville Cemetery near Owenton, KY, www.tandyecklerrileyfuneralhome.com.

Ann E. Moore, 81, of Madison, IN, died on Saturday, Dec. 28, 2024 at the Norton King’s Daughters’ Hospital.

Funeral arrangements will be announced by the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centres of Madison, and Hanover, IN, www.morgan-nay.com.

Jean Hilbert Shelton, 99, of Mc Cordsville, IN, formerly of Hanover, died on Saturday, Dec. 28, 2024, at the Traditions At Brookside in McCordsville, IN. Funeral arrangements will be announced by the Morgan & Nay Funeral

Centres of Madison, and Hanover, IN. www.morgan-nay.com.

Thomas Alden “Tommy” Thompson, 75, Carrollton , KY, died Wednesday, Dec. 25, 2024 in La Grange, KY, after a decade battle with cancer. Funeral service is 1 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 31, at Ghent Baptist Church in Ghent, KY. Tandy-Eckler-Riley Funeral Home in Carrollton, www.tandyecklerrileyfuneralhome.com.

Lila June Tufts, 74, of Canaan, IN, and formerly of Sanger, CA, died Tuesday, Dec. 24, 2024, in Louisville. Graveside service will be at 11 a.m. Monday, Jan. 13, at the Pleasant Cemetery in Bennington, IN, followed by a celebration of life luncheon at Hope Baptist Church in Dillsboro, IN. Arrangements by Stratton-Karsteter Funeral Home in Versailles, www.skfuneralhome.com.

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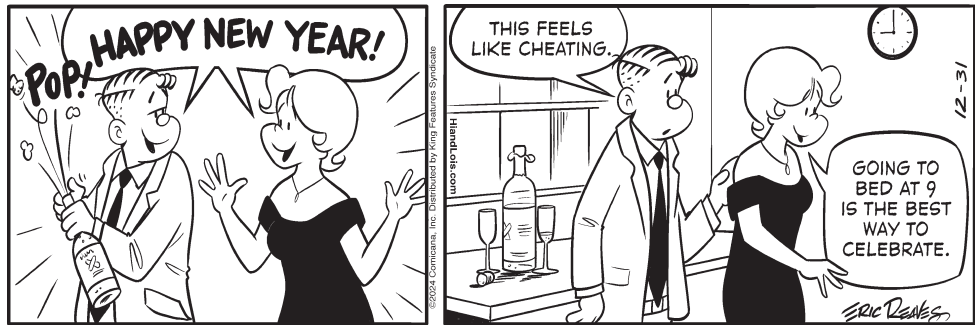
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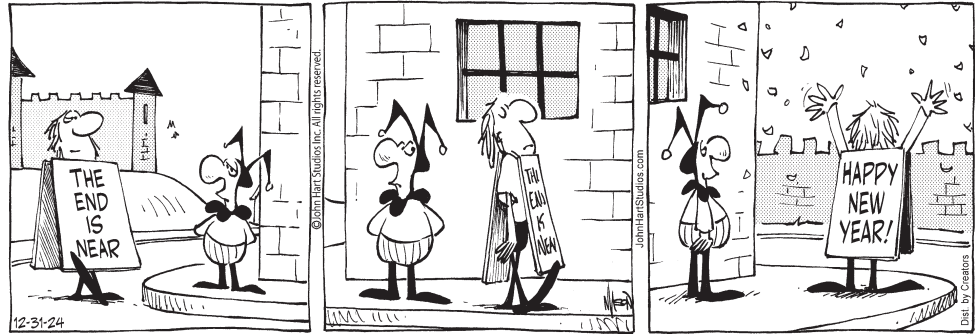
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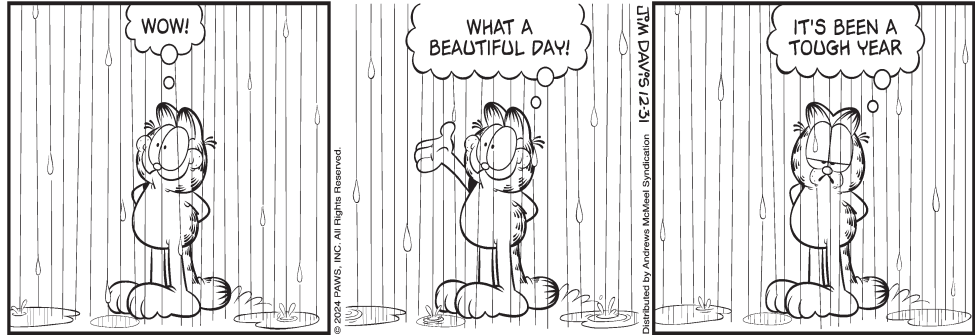
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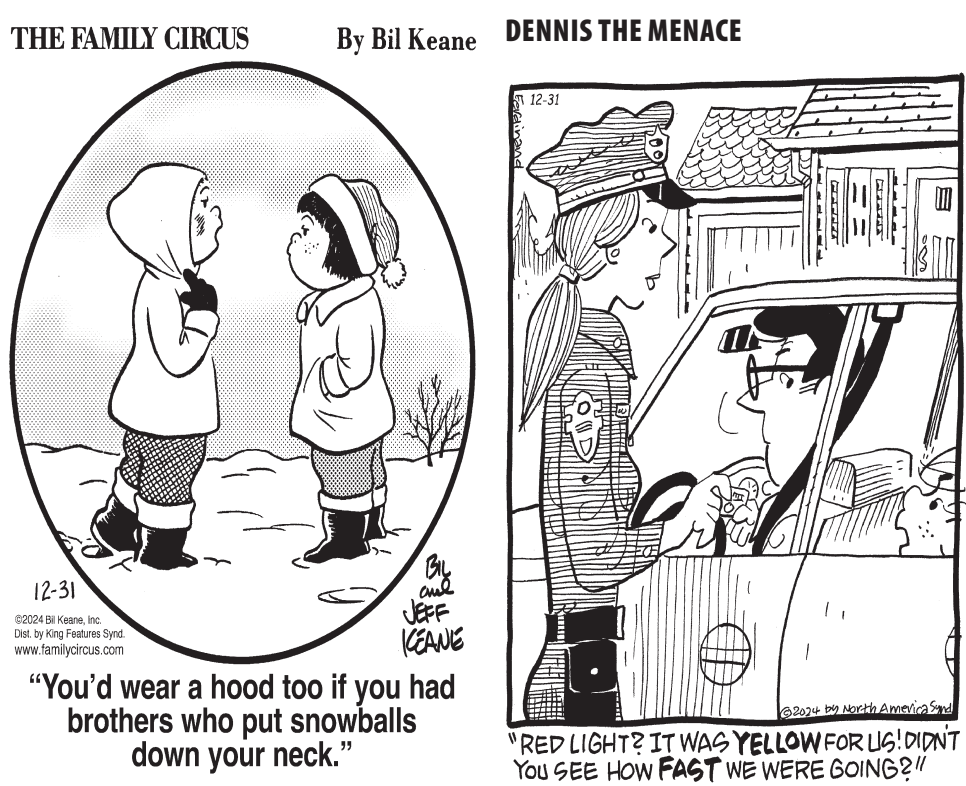
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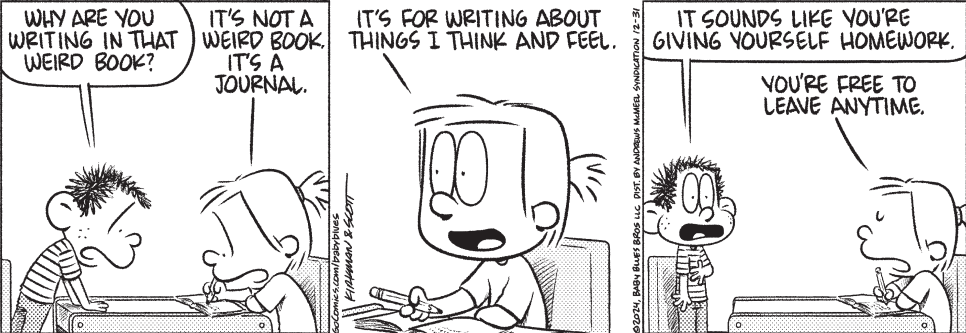
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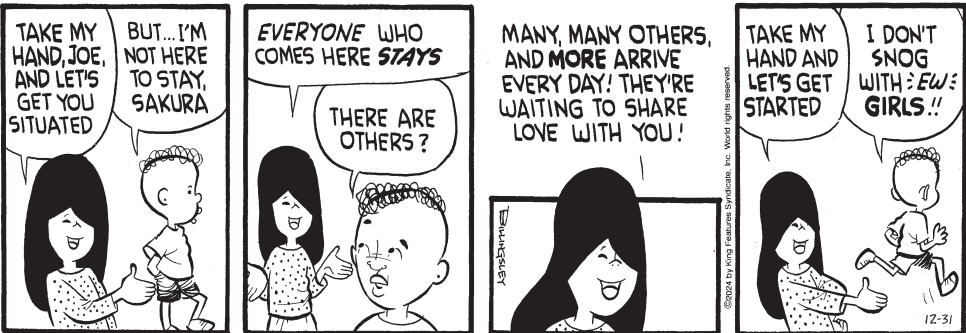
FAMILY CIRCUS



THE FAMILY CIRCUS



BABY BLUES



CURTIS



ZITS



TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is Tuesday, Dec. 31, the 366th and final day of 2024. This is New Year's Eve.

Today in history:

On Dec. 31, 1879, Thomas Edison first demonstrated his electric incandescent lights for the public by illuminating some 100 bulbs in and around his laboratory in Menlo Park, New Jersey.

Also on this date:

In 1904, New York's Times Square saw its first New Year's Eve celebration, with an estimated 200,000 people in attendance.

In 1972, Major League baseball player Roberto Clemente, 38, was killed when a plane he had chartered and was traveling on to bring relief supplies to earthquake-devastated Nicaragua crashed shortly after takeoff from Puerto Rico.

In 1985, singer Rick Nelson, 45, and six others were killed when fire broke out aboard a plane that was taking the group to a New Year's Eve performance in Dallas.

In 1995, the syndicated comic strip "Calvin and Hobbes," created by Bill Watterson, came to an end after a 10-year run.

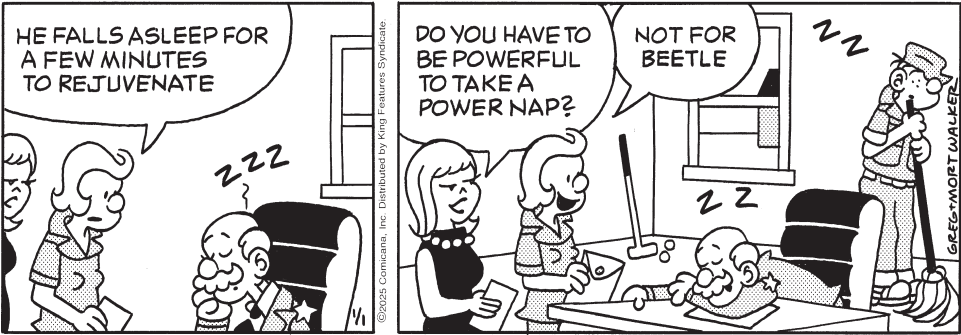
In 1999, Russian President Boris Yeltsin resigned, making Prime Minister Vladimir Putin acting president.

In 2019, the health commission in the central Chinese city of Wuhan announced that experts were investigating an outbreak of respiratory illness and that most of the victims had visited a seafood market in the city; the statement said 27 people had become ill with a strain of viral pneumonia, which would eventually be known as COVID-19.

In 2022, Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI, who had become the first pontiff in 600 years to resign as pope, died at age 95.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Anthony Hopkins is 87. Rock musician Andy Summers (The Police) is 82. Actor Ben Kingsley is 81. Filmmaker Taylor Hackford is 80. Fashion designer Diane von Fürstenberg is 78. Actor Tim Matheson is 77. Actor Bebe Neuwirth is 66. Actor Gong Li is 59. Author Nicholas Sparks is 59. Businessman Donald Trump Jr. is 47. Sen. Josh Hawley, R-Mo., is 45. Olympic gymnastics gold medalist Gabby Douglas is 29.

BEETLE BAILEY



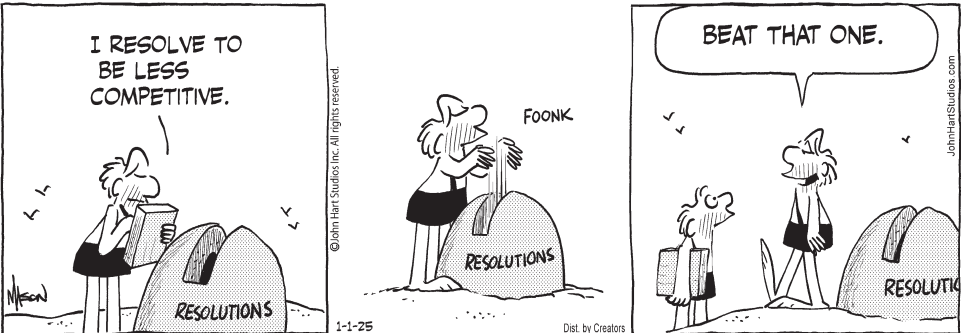
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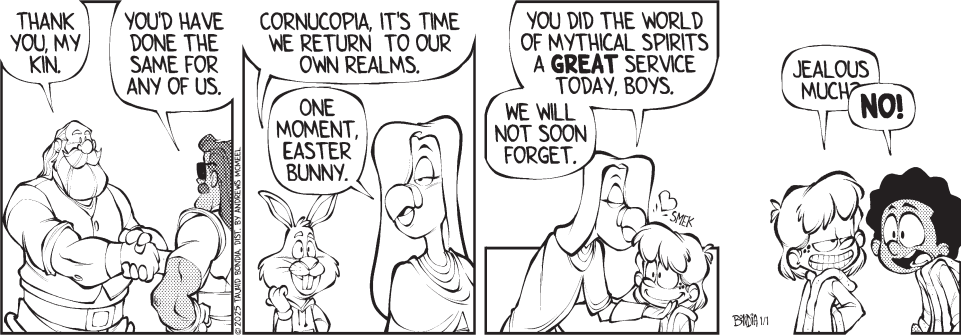
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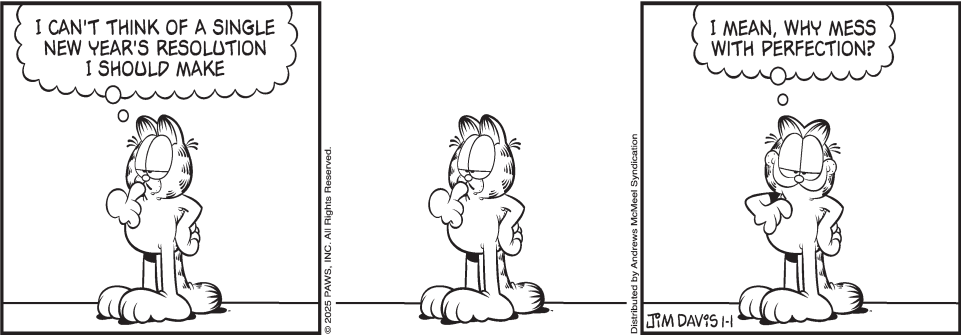
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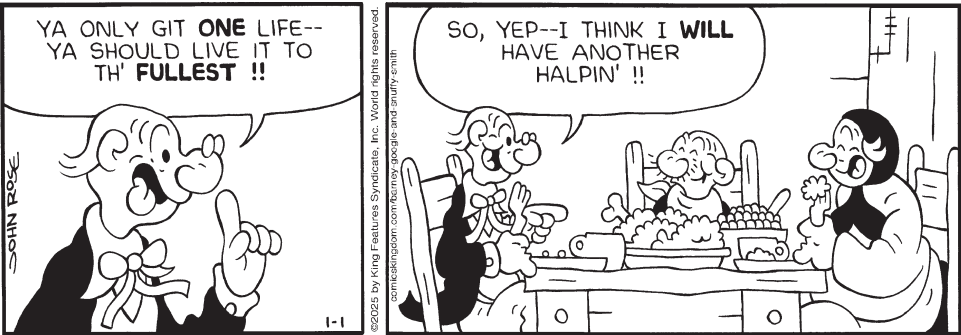
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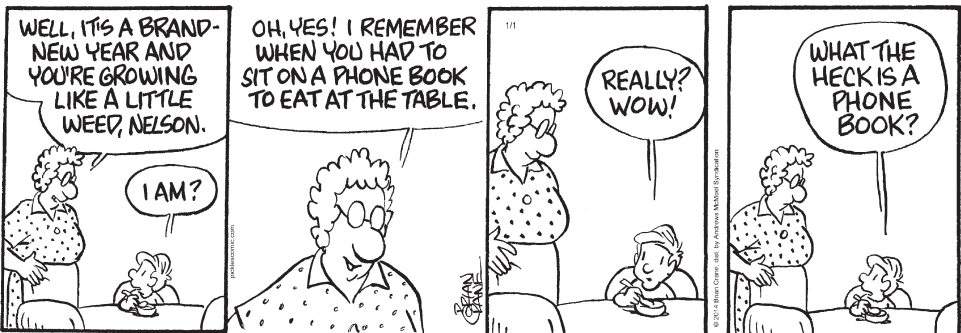
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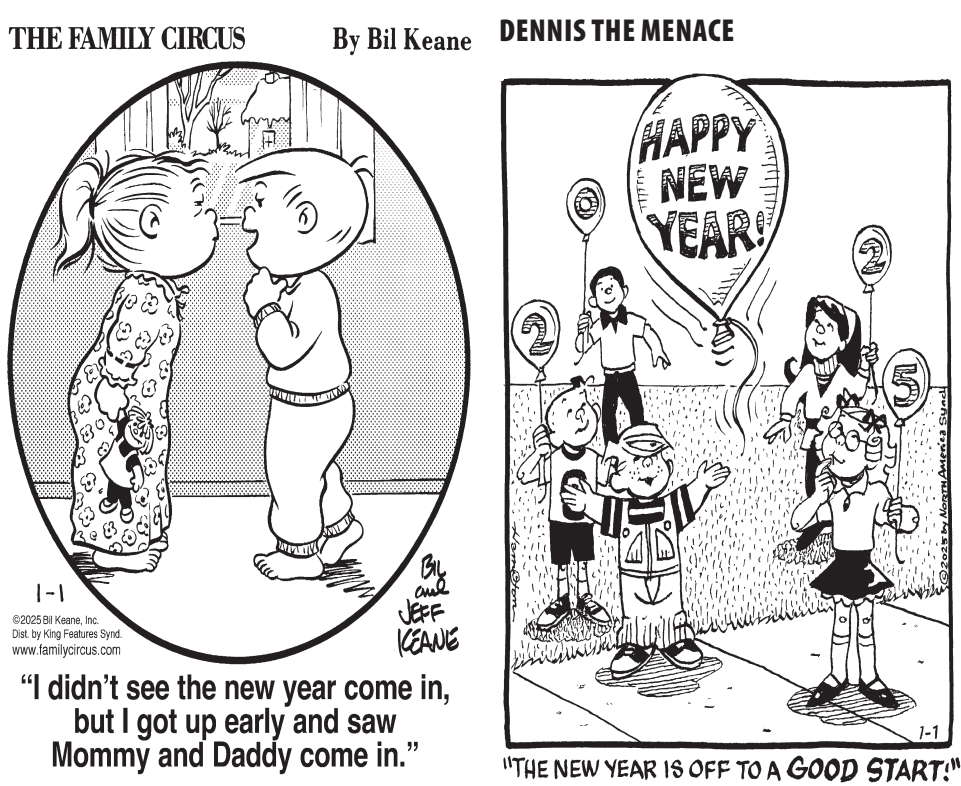
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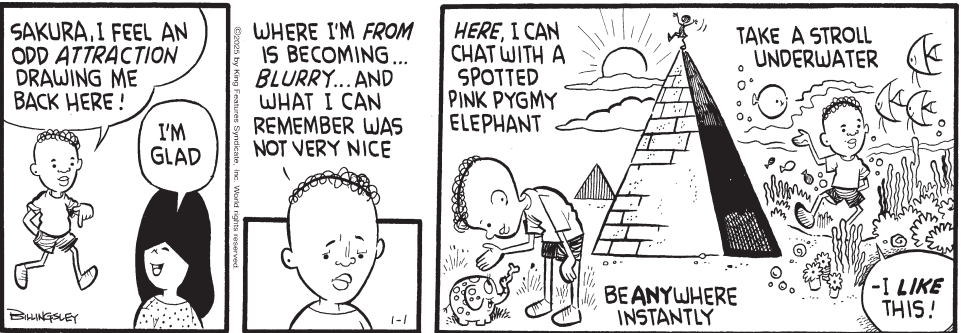
FAMILY CIRCUS



BABY BLUES



CURTIS



ZITS



TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is Wednesday, Jan. 1, the first day of 2025. There are 364 days left in the year. This is New Year's Day.

Today in history:
On Jan. 1, 1863, U.S. President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation during the Civil War, declaring that all enslaved people in rebellious states "are, and henceforward shall be free."

Also on this date:
In 1804, Haiti declared itself independent from France, becoming the world's first Black-majority republic.
In 1808, the federal law

prohibiting the importation of enslaved people to the United States took effect.
In 1818, Mary Shelley's novel "Frankenstein; or, The Modern Prometheus" was first published in London, when Shelley was 20 years old.

In 1892, the Ellis Island Immigration Station in New York formally opened, processing nearly 700 immigrants on its first day; nearly 12 million immigrants would ultimately pass through the station before its closure in 1954.

In 1959, Fulgencio Batista resigned as Cuban

president and fled the country, marking victory for Fidel Castro's rebel troops and the end of the Cuban Revolution.

In 2000, an anxious world held its breath as computers silently switched to the year 2000, but the dreaded "Y2K bug" caused few serious issues.

Today's Birthdays:
Filmmaker Frederick Wiseman is 95. Actor Frank Langella is 87. Musician Country Joe McDonald is 83. Actor-comedian Don Novello is 82. DJ Grandmaster Flash is 67. Actor Morris Chestnut is 56. Rapper Ice Spice is 25.

REVIEW

FROM PAGE A1

Over the course of three months, there were three meetings at three different sites in which Orion and the public talked about and debated the project with opinions expressed for and against. Finally, on Nov. 19, the County Board of Zoning Appeals took action, voting 4-0 to deny the application.

Even though the application was denied, Orion can reapply but must wait until after a one-year moratorium on solar applications that runs through Sept. 19, 2025. With a technical committee established to study and improve solar regulations in the county's Unified Development Ordinance, the Commissioners established a one-year moratorium order to make ordinance updates before any additional solar applications are received or reviewed.

ELECTION YEAR

Republicans claimed all county offices — with the exception of Prosecutor — in this year's general election but that was essentially because there was no Democratic opposition with the exception of County Recorder.

Amy Storm Stephens, a Republican, defeated Jenny Beverly, the only Democratic candidate to run in opposition. The win by Stephens makes her the first Republican in that office since Jean Gray was elected to serve from 1968-1976.

There were races on the Republican ballot in the primary with three-time incumbent Commissioner Bobby Little facing opposition in the middle district from Ray Black Jr. and Rick Berry. Little won the primary and, because he faced no opposition in the general election, will begin his fourth term Jan. 1.

The other Republican primary race was between Heather White and Stephens for County Recorder in which Stephens won by 71 votes.

All other Republicans were unopposed both in the primary and general election — D.J. Mote as Circuit Court Judge, David Bramer as Commissioner Lower District, Mike Pittman as Surveyor, Joshua Webb as Coroner, Meghan Hoskins as Treasurer, and Gary Copeland, Pam Crozier and Heather Foy, all as Council-at-Large.

There were also school board races with David Storie reelected to Madison school board, joined by Dustin Bentz to begin his first full term. Bentz has filled that seat the last three months, appointed by the school board after Brian Armbrecht resigned in September.

At Southwestern, Jonathon Simpson was reelected to that school board, representing Republican Township, with a 19-vote win over Tina Hardy in a three-way race that also included Jennifer Burgert. The seat for Hanover precincts 1 and 3 had no candidate, meaning incumbent Misty Jacobs will hold onto the seat.



Jefferson County Board of Zoning Appeals President David Ferguson (with microphone) during a public hearing in October on the Idlewild Solar Project near Paynesville.



Ray Black Jr. checks out his purchase at the self-service checkout while (from left) Tanya Burnette, Austin Sims, Lindsay Holley and Mayor Bob Courtney check out the new DG Market that officially opened September in downtown Madison.

CITY OF MADISON

It has been a banner 2024 in Madison, which was named the No. 1 small town in the Midwest by USA Today and the Indiana Chamber of Commerce's Community of the Year. In addition, the Madison Main Street Program was named Great American Main Street award winner and Madison Music Movement was awarded a trademark that officially designates Madison as "Indiana's Music City."

With downtown Madison having no grocery since the closing of Ruler Foods on March 31, 2018, a new DG Market opened in September providing a fresh food grocery downtown once again.

After being closed for two summers due to demolition of the pool, Madison's Crystal Beach was rebuilt and reopened in May as Crystal Beach Aquatic Park.

There were also ribbon cuttings for a Madison Port Authority expansion, unveiling of the updated Ohio Theatre facade and marquee, opening of Ohio River Legacy Park and the completion of the gateway project that included the River's Edge sculpture.

In December, Madison Municipal Airport was upgraded to regional status for the first time in its 60-year history.

The city also completed a massive water improvement project and took action to upgrade to the city's solid waste disposal system that included improvements to the city's transfer station, buying

a new garbage truck and upgrading older trucks with lifts for receptacles that make work safer for sanitation employees while also distributing new trash containers for residents throughout the city.

Towards the end of the year, the city closed on the sale of property that will become the Residences at Sunrise Crossing, eventually providing approximately 183 apartment units located behind the Shoppes at Sunrise Crossing that's now been in business over a year. A contract was awarded in December to begin work expanding the Heritage Trail to Clifty Falls State Park.

After meeting with the Miss Madison Racing board of directors, Mayor Bob Courtney reported that the hydroplane team's assets were being sold, and it was too late to reverse that transaction. However, he said there will be a Miss Madison boat racing at the Madison Regatta next year.

TOWN OF HANOVER

In August, the town of Hanover approved a proposed subdivision on 16.31 acres on Kuntz Road in Hanover that will be built in two phases — 30 units in the first phase and 26 in the second phase.

In September, plans were announced for a DG Market in Hanover on the lot next to the Fast Pace Health, 4152 West State Road 56, Hanover. There had been earlier attempts for a zoning change to put a DG Market at 4146 West State Road 56 that were

rejected due of traffic safety concerns. The property at 4152 West State Road 56, already zoned business, was able to bypass that approval.

In August, Hanover College was awarded a \$30 million College and Community Collaboration grant by Lilly Endowment Inc. that provides funding for projects that go beyond the campus, but also the town of Hanover and the city of Madison.

READI AWARDS

In December, Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority announced three Jefferson County projects totaling \$8.5 million were approved from the region's \$45 million Regional Economic Acceleration and Development Initiative (READI) monies allocated by the Indiana Economic Development Corporation (IEDC).

The city of Madison was awarded \$3.5 million to create a permanent amphitheater at Bicentennial Park and \$2 million to develop housing on the former Madison Coal Company property now owned by the city at east corner of Jefferson Street and Vaughn Drive. Jefferson County was awarded \$3 million for a Krueger Lake Campground at the former Jefferson Proving Ground.

TOURISM AND EVENTS

Indiana Gov. Eric Holcomb was at the Madison Regatta to present the Indiana Governor's Cup, the last time that he would perform that duty with his



Bill Wagner (left) talks with Indiana Lt. Gov. Suzanne Crouch while she was in Jefferson County in March to assess tornado damage. Wagner was home laying in the hallway at the time the storm hit his home. He said the ceiling and roof was torn off. He escaped injury but was covered with insulation.



Sculptor Ed Hamilton stands next to the George DeBaptiste bust he created while talking with John Staicer (left), president and executive director of Historic Madison Inc., and Tony Steinhardt III, the city of Madison's economic development director, following unveiling at the new Ohio River Legacy Park ribbon cutting ceremony in November.

term of office coming to the end in January. The winner of this year's race was the Goodman Real Estate/Miss Madison, driven by Andrew Tate.

With the Madison Chautauqua Festival of Art feeling the remnants of Hurricane Helene that caused destruction throughout southeastern United States, the event still carried on, despite the weather. High winds and rain on Friday delayed Chautauqua artists from setting up their booths, but in the end 115 artists and craftsmen still showed up and the event was deemed successful.

An effort to increase the Jefferson County innkeeper's tax to 8% was successful and will take effect Jan. 1. The increase needed approval from the Indiana General Assembly which was achieved in March during the 2024 session, and then was approved by County Council in August. The innkeeper's tax, which is levied on all rooms in hotels, motels, bed and breakfasts, Airbnbs and other lodgings, was established for Jefferson County in 1981 at 4% and increased to 5% in 1987 with no other changes until this year.

With two aging privately-owned trolleys from the 1980s in use, Visit Madison Inc. was able to land funding to purchase two newer publically-owned trolleys. The first arrived in November, just in time for the Nights Before Christmas Candlelight Tour of Homes — a used trolley delivered from Baltimore at a cost of \$167,000. A newly built trolley is to be delivered next year at a cost of approximately \$237,000 from Hometown Trolley Manufacturing, a company based in Crandon, Wisconsin.

Jefferson County veterans who served in Vietnam were honored in March with the dedication ceremony of the new Jefferson County Vietnam Veterans Memorial in front of the

county courthouse. The Vietnam Veterans Memorial includes a bronze 6-foot-2 replica of a soldier with the words "All gave some, Some gave all" at the bottom of the granite base of the monument along with a bench.

Madison Area Arts Alliance expanded its space at the SPOT at 326 Mulberry Street with the addition of the neighboring 324 Mulberry Street building. The SPOT has earned a reputation as a gathering place to showcase art with changing galleries every month.

After losing riverboat visits and their impact on the local tourism industry and public interest when American Queen Voyages (AQV) went out of business early in the year, America Cruise Lines (ACL) bought the AQV fleet and in July made its inaugural port of call in Madison with two boats — the American Melody and the paddle wheeler American Heritage.

Indiana Landmark's Preservation Conference met in Jefferson County in October, filling local hotels, and showcasing Madison's success in historic preservation.

With the successful transformation of Madison's Historic Eagle Cotton Mill into a thriving Fairfield Inn & Suites by Marriott, the refurbishment of the property's Picker House was completed to create another local event space.

Visit Madison Inc. introduced the regional motor trail experience in May, called REVerie Roads providing five routes in southern Indiana and northern Kentucky for bike and car enthusiasts.

The dream of building a community playground in Dupont was achieved with a ribbon-cutting ceremony on the last Saturday in March for the official grand opening.

SEE REVIEW/PAGE A7

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REVIEW

FROM **PAGE A6**

The first-ever Madison Pride was deemed a success as more than 400 people gathered on the Lanier Mansion State Historic Site for the LGBTQ celebration in June. Later in the month, the second annual Juneteenth event as held in Madison with a picnic gathering, a 5K Run/Walk and a documentary.

A new event was held in Madison “Play Music on the Porch Day” in which musicians performed at various downtown locations on the last Saturday in August.

TRAGIC EVENTS

A March 14 tornado followed a path through Jefferson, Trimble, Carroll and Switzerland counties, destroying homes, knocking out power, blocking roads and causing heavy damage for more than 18 miles. The tornado traveled through Jefferson Manor in Hanover, went onto the Ohio River then into Milton, Kentucky, and then just past Brooksbury in the vicinity of Sandy Beach in eastern Jefferson County along State Road 56.

Four people died in a tragic October house fire on Fifth Street in Carrollton, Kentucky. Just eight minutes after fire was reported at the structure, the house was fully engulfed. The only survivor was a 3-year-old girl that police officers were able to pull from the burning house.

This was the year that commemorated the 50th anniversary of the April 3, 1974 tornado that tore through Jefferson County resulting in 11 deaths, 190 injuries and millions of dollars in destruction to anything in its path.

This year was the 20th anniversary of the disappearance of Molly Dattilo, a 2000 graduate of Madison Consolidated High School known for being a prolific distance runner, competing in track and cross country, as well as a talented singer. She went missing on July 6, 2004, and has not been seen since.

An investigation into four deaths that occurred in December 2023 on Telegraph Hill Road near Madison determined that Naomi Briner shot her three children, set the house on fire and then took her own life.

TRANSITIONS

With the \$45 million Jefferson County Sheriff’s Office and Criminal Justice Center completed at the end of 2023, inmates were moved from the Jefferson County Jail to the new facility in January. Later in the year, Commissioners were working to find new uses for the old downtown jail building. At the beginning of the current school year, Jefferson County Alternative to Suspension Program (JCASP) moved into a portion of the building. The Commissioners are also working towards renovating a portion of the building to be used as juvenile detention center.



Indiana Landmark’s Preserving Historic Places Conference was held in Madison in October. Participants in the conference are pictured as they walked along Walnut Street on a tour of the Georgetown neighborhood.



Soraya Campbell enjoyed playing with bubbles during Madison Ribberfest BBQ & Blues Festival that took place in August.

Children’s Advocacy Center of Southeastern Indiana celebrated its own home in Jefferson County with a ribbon-cutting at 601 West Street in downtown Madison. The CAC for Jefferson County had been located just four blocks away at the Clearinghouse, but that was a shared building and due to the proximity to other social service agencies, the move was needed to provide a healthier space for children. Rehabilitation of the house was funded by a \$500,000 Office of Community and Rural Affairs (OCRA) Block Grant and \$288,778 in matching funds provided by a Bethany Legacy Foundation grant.

Katie Rampy resigned as Madison’s Clerk-Treasurer just four months into the four-year term that she had been elected in the 2023 general election. Shirley Rynearson, a former Clerk-Treasurer for Lakeview, Indiana, was elected to replace Rampy in Republican caucus.

Kenny Garrett, a member of the Hanover Town Council for more than 10 years, resigned in May with Jane Stormer being elected in Democratic caucus to complete his term that goes to the end of 2026.

Melvin Adams, 88, who had been the longest current serving township advisory board member in Indiana in his 54th year, died Feb. 28 at the age of 88. Adams was first elected to the Hanover Township Advisory Board in 1970 and then reelected 13 times. Ron Kroger Jr. was elected in Democratic caucus to replace Adams on the advisory board.

Bobby Phillips resigned as Jefferson County Highway Superintendent after nearly nine years in that position, working a total of 27 years for the county highway department. Phillips was also named this year’s Indiana Association of Indiana Counties (IAIC) Highway Superintendent of the Year. Jason Copeland, a nine-year employee of the highway department was named the new County Highway Superintendent, taking over the position after Phillips’ last day Oct. 18.

County 911 Director Susie Lawrence retired in January after 20 years with dispatch, the last seven as director. Brandon Tucker was named the new 911 Director.

City of Madison changes included Chris Hale taking over as Director of Streets, Facilities and Solid Waste following the retirement of Tony Sorrells and Bill DeVries returning as Fire Chief following the resignation of Kenny Washer. Also, Brena Haley was named the city’s preservation officer, a position that hadn’t been filled since Brooke Peach had resigned in the fall of 2023.

Alex Helton was named the new executive director for the Madison Area Chamber of Commerce in October, replacing Liz Ciganovich who had left the position in June.

Jordan Blair, a native of southern Michigan, was named the new property manager at Clifty Falls State Park, replacing Larry Brown.

Among the notable deaths locally were: John Galvin, local historic preservation leader and long-time owner of the Ohio Theatre; Jerry Thaden, former superintendent of Madison State Hospital (1979-1996), Dr. John Hossler, former county health officer (2010-2023) and Madison basketball great Harold “Buster” Briley, all-time leading scorer for the Cubs.

SAFETY BOATS

With Jefferson County located on the Ohio River and not having a safety boat, County Emergency Management Director Matt True made the case to the County Commissioners and the County Council about the need for such as rescue watercraft. While the county never agreed to funding the purchase of a boat, action was later taken by other entities. Hanover Township Volunteer Fire Company purchased a boat in September, providing the county with what is believed to be the county’s first-ever safety boat. Meanwhile, the city of Madison’s Board of Public Works and Safety agreed to purchase a safety boat in December that



Katharina Theissen and Wesley Abplanalp of Frankfurt, Germany, share an umbrella during the Madison Chautauqua Festival of Art in September. Abplanalp, a Madison native and son of Madison residents Larry and Kaye Abplanalp, didn’t let Saturday’s rain-fall prevent them from browsing the exhibits and booths or artists and craftsmen.



A group of veterans from the audience removes a tarp to unveil the new Vietnam Veterans Memorial at the dedication ceremony in March front of the Jefferson County Courthouse.



Indiana Governor Eric Holcomb extends a handshake to Andrew Tate during the Madison Regatta and Indiana Governor’s Cup race. Holcomb, a Regatta fan and regular at the Governor’s Cup race during his terms in office, was attending his final race as governor before leaving office in January.

is anticipated to take 18 to 24 months to build.

CHILDCARE CENTER

With Madison Consolidated Schools receiving a \$750,000 Employer-Sponsored Child Care Grant early in the year, work began to explore child care for the school corporation that began with a childcare center for MCS employees. Since then, work has begun to explore converting the former E.O. Muncie Elementary into a community childcare facility. The school board approved developing designs for the facility with further decisions to be determined in 2025.

TRIMBLE COUNTY DEVELOPMENT

Trimble County Fiscal Court announced in December the purchase of a 224-acre parcel of land just outside the Bedford city limits for \$1 million in an effort to spur economic growth and housing and bring better health care to the county. The county’s plan is to develop multiple types of housing with recreational facilities and community services, a commerce center for business and retail and an urgent care center that would provide expanded health services in the county.

RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT FACILITY

Bethany Legacy Foundation (BLF) made its focus on mental health for 2024. One potential project coming could eventually lead to the residential treatment facility in Jefferson County. In September, Dora Anim, BLF president and chief executive officer, made the announcement at a County Commissioners meeting that named LifeSpring Health Systems as the vendor to make that possible. A memorandum of understanding must still be adopted between the county and LifeSpring as part of the process for developing the residential treatment facility.

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DIRECTV AUTHORIZED DEALER

Commissioners finalize funding for juvenile facility, Rykers Ridge

BY BOB DEMAREE
With an end-of-the-year deadline to allocate county's remaining American Rescue Plan (ARP) funds, the Jefferson County Commissioners held a special meeting Monday morning to finalize what they'll do with that money. The remaining amount was \$339,426.58 from the county's \$6.2 million in ARP funds. The Commissioners decided to divide

those remaining funds between converting a portion of the former Jefferson County Jail into a juvenile correction facility and towards contributing to a grant match for Rykers Ridge-Telegraph Hill Regional Sewer District for upgrades and repairs to the utility. The Commissioners received cost quotes for the renovation work at the jail, and based on

what they received from a Teton Corporation quote, they dedicated \$164,426.58 to that project with the remaining \$175,000 going to Rykers Ridge-Telegraph Hill Regional Sewer District. Commissioner David Bramer said if Rykers Ridge does not receive the grant then the county will hold that money, and reallocate those funds according to ARP guidelines.

Even though the Commissioners have received a quote from Teton Corporation on the jail renovation for the juvenile correction facility, Bramer said they are also waiting on a quote from Can Do Maintenance. Bramer said there is ceiling work at the old jail that needs to be done along with painting, plumbing and checking out the laundry and

kitchen equipment. Once that work is done and all approvals are received, it's hoped that the space can be utilized as a juvenile correction facility by the end of 2025. The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, also called the COVID-19 Stimulus Package or American Rescue Plan, is a \$1.9 trillion economic stimulus bill passed by the 117th United States

Congress and signed into law by President Joe Biden on March 11, 2021, to speed up the country's recovery from the economic and health effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and recession. Any dollars not obligated by the Dec. 31 deadline need to be returned to the U.S. Treasury, though the funds don't have to be spent until the end of 2026.

LEGACY

FROM PAGE A1

In 1993, she began working for her mother in the County Treasurer's office, staying there through the end of 2000 when Mary Frances O'Connor was elected County Recorder, and then moving with her mother to that office. Mary Frances O'Connor retired at the end of her term in 2008. In 2008, Leigh Koehler, who had been a deputy in County Auditor's office since 1999, ran for County Recorder and went on to serve two terms in the office. "Leigh asked me if I was going to run at that time, and I said, I had no interest in running

for office, and so she did and she kept me on as first deputy," said Molly. But after Koehler had served her two-term limit, O'Connor decided to seek the office, carrying on her parents' legacy of serving the Democratic party in political office. In 2016 and 2020, O'Connor had no Republican opposition, limiting the amount of effort she had to put into campaigning. "All I did was put signs out at the polling place the night before," she said, noting she actually used signs from her mother's campaigns. "I didn't buy signs. I still had my mom's signs." But in an era when Republicans are dominating local elections, it's challenging for Democrats to have the opportunity to serve "so I feel lucky that I got

to finish it up" to have the career in county government to carry on the work that her mother did, and now retire from there, just as her mother did. Mary Frances O'Connor died in 2014 and John Ready O'Connor died in 1991, but Molly still lives in her family home on Holcroft Road where her parents raised eight children, all of whom she says are living healthy and good lives. "Everybody has got to do the things they wanted to do as far as work life," she said, and while Molly is the only sibling who has stayed in Madison, her sisters Katie and Beth are making plans to eventually come back. O'Connor's departure leaves County Prosecutor David Sutter as the only remaining coun-

ty-wide Democratic office holder. Because the Prosecutor's office is not based in the Courthouse, O'Connor was last remaining Democratic elected official working out of the Courthouse that will now be all Republican. It's a turnaround from 16 years ago in 2008, the year that Mary Frances O'Connor served her last year in office, when Jefferson County Democrats won all county-wide offices. Politics is "always cyclical" and when it goes one way for several years, "it's always going to change," O'Connor noted. Stephens is the first Republican to serve as Jefferson County Recorder since Jean Gray held the office from 1968-1976. After that, five Democrats have served as County Recorder.

Andrew James, who has worked for O'Connor in the Recorder's office since May 2023, will remain in the office as first deputy. Stephens said she is in the process of hiring another deputy. The Recorder's office is one that O'Connor knows well, working there the last 24 consecutive years. "It's time to pass it along. I always called myself 'the thing that wouldn't leave.' Well, the thing that wouldn't leave is leaving now" but she's glad for the time she's had serving the community. "I've worked with and met a lot of nice people." She wishes the same for Stephens. "I hope Amy enjoys it as much as I have. It's a nice office to be in."

CARTER

FROM PAGE A1

Carter repeated before narrowly beating Republican incumbent Gerald Ford, who had lost popularity pardoning Nixon. Carter governed amid Cold War pressures, turbulent oil markets and social upheaval over racism, women's rights and America's global role. His most acclaimed achievement in office was a Mideast peace deal that he brokered by keeping Egyptian President Anwar Sadat and Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin at the bargaining table for 13 days in 1978. That Camp David experience inspired the post-presidential center where Carter would establish so much of his legacy. Yet Carter's electoral coalition splintered under double-digit inflation, gasoline lines and the 444-day hostage crisis in Iran. His bleakest hour came when eight Americans died in a failed hostage rescue in April 1980, helping to ensure his landslide defeat to Republican Ronald Reagan. Carter acknowledged in his 2020 "White House Diary" that he could be "micromanaging" and "excessively autocratic," complicating dealings with Congress and the federal bureaucracy. He also turned a cold shoulder to Washington's news media and lobbyists, not fully appreciating their influence on his political fortunes.

"It didn't take us long to realize that the underestimation existed, but by that time we were not able to repair the mistake," Carter told historians in 1982, suggesting that he had "an inherent incompatibility" with Washington insiders. Carter insisted his overall approach was sound and that he achieved his primary objectives — to "protect our nation's security and interests peacefully" and "enhance human rights here and abroad" — even if he fell spectacularly short of a second term.

AND THEN, THE WORLD
Ignominious defeat, though, allowed for renewal. The Carters founded The Carter Center in 1982 as a first-of-its-kind base of operations, asserting themselves as international peacemakers and champions of democracy, public health and human rights. "I was not interested in just building a museum or storing my White House records and memorabilia," Carter wrote in a memoir published after his 90th birthday. "I wanted a place where we could work." That work included easing nuclear tensions in North and South Korea, helping to avert a U.S. invasion of Haiti and negotiating cease-fires in Bosnia and Sudan. By 2022, The Carter Center had declared at least 113 elections in Latin America, Asia and Africa to be free or fraudu-

lent. Recently, the center began monitoring U.S. elections as well. Carter's stubborn self-assuredness and even self-righteousness proved effective once he was unencumbered by the Washington order, sometimes to the point of frustrating his successors. He went "where others are not treading," he said, to places like Ethiopia, Liberia and North Korea, where he secured the release of an American who had wandered across the border in 2010. "I can say what I like. I can meet whom I want. I can take on projects that please me and reject the ones that don't," Carter said. He announced an arms-reduction-for-aid deal with North Korea without clearing the details with Bill Clinton's White House. He openly criticized President George W. Bush for the 2003 invasion of Iraq. He also criticized America's approach to Israel with his 2006 book "Palestine: Peace Not Apartheid." And he repeatedly countered U.S. administrations by insisting North Korea should be included in international affairs, a position that most aligned Carter with Republican President Donald Trump.

Among the center's many public health initiatives, Carter vowed to eradicate the guinea worm parasite during his lifetime, and nearly achieved it: Cases dropped from millions in the 1980s to nearly a handful. With hard hats and hammers, the Carters also built homes with Habitat for Humanity. The Nobel committee's 2002 Peace Prize cites his "untiring effort to find peaceful solutions to international conflicts, to advance democracy and human rights, and to promote economic and social development." Carter should have won it alongside Sadat and Begin in 1978, the chairman added. Carter accepted the recognition saying there was more work to be done. "The world is now, in many ways, a more dangerous place," he said. "The greater ease of travel and communication has not been matched by equal understanding and mutual respect."

'AN EPIC AMERICAN LIFE'
Carter's globetrotting took him to remote villages where he met little "Jimmy Carters," so named by admiring parents. But he spent most of his days in the same one-story Plains house — expanded and guarded by Secret Service agents — where they lived before he became governor. He regularly taught Sunday School lessons at Maranatha Baptist Church until his mobility declined and the coronavirus pandemic raged. Those sessions drew visitors from around the world to the small sanctuary where Carter will receive his final send-off after a state

funeral at Washington's National Cathedral. The common assessment that he was a better expressed than president ranked Carter and his allies. His prolific post-presidency gave him a brand above politics, particularly for Americans too young to witness him in office. But Carter also lived long enough to see biographers and historians reassess his White House years more generously. His record includes the deregulation of key industries, reduction of U.S. dependence on foreign oil, cautious management of the national debt and notable legislation on the environment, education and mental health. He focused on human rights in foreign policy, pressuring dictators to release thousands of political prisoners. He acknowledged America's historical imperialism, pardoned Vietnam War draft evaders and relinquished control of the Panama Canal. He normalized relations with China. "I am not nominating Jimmy Carter for a place on Mount Rushmore," Stuart Eizenstat, Carter's domestic policy director, wrote in a 2018 book. "He was not a great president" but also not the "hapless and weak" caricature voters rejected in 1980, Eizenstat said. Rather, Carter was "good and productive" and "delivered results, many of which were realized only after he left office."

Madeleine Albright, a national security staffer for Carter and Clinton's secretary of state, wrote in Eizenstat's forward that Carter was "consequential and successful" and expressed hope that "perceptions will continue to evolve" about his presidency. "Our country was lucky to have him as our leader," said Albright, who died in 2022. Jonathan Alter, who penned a comprehensive Carter biography published in 2020, said in an interview that Carter should be remembered for "an epic American life" spanning from a humble start in a home with no electricity or indoor plumbing through decades on the world stage across two centuries. "He will likely go down as one of the most misunderstood and underestimated figures in American history," Alter told The Associated Press.

A SMALL-TOWN START
James Earl Carter Jr. was born Oct. 1, 1924, in Plains and spent his early years in nearby Archery. His family was a minority in the mostly Black community, decades before the civil rights movement played out at the dawn of Carter's political career. Carter, who campaigned as a moderate on race relations but governed more progressively, talked often of the influence of his Black caregivers and playmates but also noted his advantages: His

land-owning father sat atop Archery's tenant-farming system and owned a main street grocery. His mother, Lillian, would become a staple of his political campaigns. Seeking to broaden his world beyond Plains and its population of fewer than 1,000 — then and now — Carter won an appointment to the U.S. Naval Academy, graduating in 1946. That same year he married Rosalynn Smith, another Plains native, a decision he considered more important than any he made as head of state. She shared his desire to see the world, sacrificing college to support his Navy career. Carter climbed in rank to lieutenant, but then his father was diagnosed with cancer,

so the submarine officer set aside his ambitions of admiralty and moved the family back to Plains. His decision angered Rosalynn, even as she dived into the peanut business alongside her husband. Carter again failed to talk with his wife before his first run for office — he later called it "inconceivable" not to have consulted her on such major life decisions — but this time, she was on board. "My wife is much more political," Carter told the AP in 2021. He won a state Senate seat in 1962 but wasn't long for the General Assembly and its back-slapping, deal-cutting ways. He ran for governor in 1966 — losing to arch-segregationist Lester Maddox

— and then immediately focused on the next campaign. Carter had spoken out against church segregation as a Baptist deacon and opposed racist "Dixiecrats" as a state senator. Yet as a local school board leader in the 1950s he had not pushed to end school segregation even after the Supreme Court's Brown v. Board of Education decision, despite his private support for integration. And in 1970, Carter ran for governor again as the more conservative Democrat against Carl Sanders, a wealthy businessman Carter mocked as "Cufflinks Carl." Sanders never forgave him for anonymous, race-baiting flyers, which Carter disavowed.

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Rebs' JCIT 3-peat hopes shattered by Brownstown in finals

BY THE COURIER STAFF
Southwestern picked up a pair of lopsided wins in pool play but then suffered a 73-57 loss to Brownstown in the championship game of the Jefferson County Invitational Tournament on Saturday in Hanover.

The Rebels, who have won a record 13 JCIT titles including the last two, hammered Clarks-ville 70-7 in the first game on Friday and then beat Purdue Polytechnic 65-50 Friday night to earn a trip to the championship game against undefeated Brownstown.

Southwestern held its own against the Braves for the first 16 minutes but a big third quarter gave Brownstown all the breathing room it needed to pull out the win.

Brownstown (9-0), which knocked off Mad-ison and Christian Acad-emy of Indiana in pool play, led 21-16 after the first quarter but South- western cut that mar- gin to 33-31 at halftime. Brownstown then out-

scored the Rebels 21-10 in the third quarter and 19-16 in the fourth to pull away.

Brady Cook had a big game for Southwestern, scoring 19 points, pull- ing down five rebounds and dishing out four assists while Braxton Lewis scored 15 points and Landon Kidwell had 11 points and seven rebounds for the Reb- els, who shot 50% for the game, including 10-for-18 (56%) from 3-point range. All three players were named to the all-tourna- ment team.

Brownstown's Chace Coomer had 33 points and was named the tour- nament's Most Valuable Player. Micah Shef- fer added 11 and Colby Hall 10 for Brownstown, which shot 55% for the game. Both players, along with Lane Pendle- ton, were named to the all-tournament team.

Southwestern's open- er against Clarksville on Friday was never close. The Rebels led 27-7 after the first quarter and shut



Southwestern's Braxton Lewis (left) and Clarksville's Jeremiah Freeman battle for the ball during the JCIT in Hanover on Friday.

out Clarksville over the next two quarters to take a 55-7 lead into the fourth quarter.

Cook scored 16 points, Kidwell had 13 and Lewis had 12 to lead South- western. Christian Lee had seven points to lead Clarksville.

Southwestern needed a big third quarter to pull away for the win over Purdue Polytechnic. The Rebels led 16-13 after the

first quarter and 30-29 at halftime before outscor- ing the Techies 18-8 in the third to create some distance.

Caleb Goode scored 20 points and had six assists for the Rebels, Kidwell had 18 points and nine rebounds and Lewis had 16 points and five assists. T.J. Williams had 16 points to lead Purdue.

Southwestern, now 7-2 on the season, travels to Corydon on Saturday.



Southwestern's Brady Cook (right) scores over Clarksville's Cordae Clay (25) during the Jefferson County Invitational Tournament in Hanover on Friday.



The Madison Lady Cubs won three games and beat Southwestern in the championship to claim the Hauser Holiday Tournament on Saturday.

Madison girls knock off Southwestern to win Hauser Tourney

BY THE COURIER STAFF
Madison's girls basketball team wrapped up a strong three-day stay in Hope with a 58-30 win over rival Southwestern in the champi- onship game of the Hauser Holi- day Tournament on Saturday.

The Cubs, who had defeated South Decatur and North Deca- tur en route to the championship showdown with Southwestern, started off quickly and led 33-13 at halftime and 46-20 after three quarters before cruising to the win.

Juliana Davis scored 17 points, Mylee McQueary had 16 and Addison Roark scored 10 to lead Madison with Kenzie Smith chipping in nine points. Davis, McQueary, Roark and Kylie Mont-

gomery were each named to the all-tournament team.

No stats for Southwestern were available but Rorie Scroggins and Harlee Hill each earned all-tourna- ment honors.

Madison opened the tourna- ment with a 51-37 win over South Decatur on Thursday. Davis had 17 points, eight steals and seven rebounds for the Cubs, Roark had 16 points, McQueary had eight points and three assists and Smith had five points, six rebounds and four steals.

On Friday, Madison defeat- ed North Decatur 54-43 in the semifinals. Davis had 23 points, 10 rebounds and four steals, McQueary had 13 points and eight rebounds and Roark had 12

points and three rebounds.

Southwestern opened the tourna- ment with a 44-32 win over Columbus East on Thursday. Scroggins had 13 points and six rebounds for the Rebels, Savan- nah Nussbaum had eight points, five assists and three steals and Mikayla Nussbaum had seven points.

Southwestern defeated Hauser 60-33 in the semifinals on Friday. No results from the game were available.

Madison, now 11-2 on the sea- son, hosts South Ripley on Friday and hosts Brownstown on Tues- day, Jan. 7.

Southwestern, now 11-5 on the season, hosts Class 2A No. 4 Aus- tin on Thursday, Jan. 9.



Madison's Landon True (3) turns the corner on Christian Academy's Noah Vance (30) during the JCIT at Southwestern on Friday.

True breaks 3s record as Cubs beat Clarksville for 5th at JCIT

BY THE COURIER STAFF
Landon True hit a school-record nine 3-pointers and scored a career-high 37 points to lift Madison to a 61-40 win over Clarksville in the fifth-place game of the Jefferson County Invita- tional Tournament on Sat- urday in Hanover.

True went 9-for-21 from the 3-point line, 10-for-23 from the floor overall and 8-of-9 from the free-throw line for his total. The nine 3-pointers breaks Bryan Bullington's school record of eight set during the 1998-99 season.

True's long-distance shooting show helped stake Madison to a 22-8 lead after the first quar- ter and 37-17 at halftime. After outscoring Clarks- ville 18-5 in the third, the Cubs subbed heavily in the fourth.

True wasn't the only Cub hitting from down- town. Damon Harden hit three 3-pointers and scored 11 points while also pulling down six rebounds. After shooting 50% in the first half as a team, Madison cooled



Madison's Damon Harden launches a 3-pointer over Christian Academy's Joshua Renfro (1) during the JCIT at Southwestern on Friday.

considerably in the sec- ond half and finished 20-for-49 (41%) for the game.

Jeremiah Freeman scored 14 points to lead Clarksville.

Madison suffered a pair of losses to ranked teams in pool play on Friday.

In the opener, the Cubs fell 55-48 to Class A No. 2

SEE **RECORD/PAGE B4**

No. 18 Iowa State wins 11 games for 1st time

BY TIM REYNOLDS
ASSOCIATED PRESS
ORLANDO, Fla. — It was a season of Iowa State comebacks. And fittingly, that's how it ended for the Cyclones.

Game MVP Rocco Becht scored from a yard out on fourth- and-goal with 56 seconds remain- ing and No. 18 Iowa State capped the best season in school history by rallying past No. 15 Miami 42-41 in the Pop-Tarts Bowl on Saturday.

Becht finished with 270 pass- ing yards and three touchdowns for Iowa State (11-2), a program that entered this season — the 133rd year of Cyclone football — never having won more than nine games in a year.

"If you look at this team, it's really who they've been all year," coach Matt Campbell said.

The win marked the fourth time in 2024 that Iowa State got a winning score with less than two minutes remaining. For this

one, the Cyclones rallied from a 10-point deficit in the second half — with Miami quarterback Cam Ward watching after a record-set- ting first half — to get win No. 11. Carson Hansen rushed for a pair of touchdowns for Iowa State.

And as the MVP, Becht got the honor of choosing which flavor Pop-Tart was to be sacrificed in a giant toaster.

"There's only one," Becht said. "Cinnamon roll."

Ward passed for three touch- downs in his final college game, while Damien Martinez rushed for a career-high 179 yards for Miami (10-3), which dropped its sixth straight bowl game and lost three of four games to end the season — those three losses by a combined 10 points.

"Disappointed that we couldn't pull out a victory," Miami coach Mario Cristobal said. "These guys have always fought and always competed and this was no

exception. ... It's painful. It's as painful as it gets when you don't win. But there's a lot to build on."

Martinez and Mark Fletcher Jr. rushed for scores for Miami, which was seeking its first 11-win season since 2003. Elijah Arroyo, Jojo Trader and Jacolby George had TD catches for the Hurricanes.

A 15-play, 84-yard drive by Iowa State was what delivered the winning score.

"Just a great team win," Han- sen said. "And it was great to see that confetti fall."

The first half was wild. Miami fumbled the ball away on the game's first snap. And the next eight drives all ended with touch- downs, neither team able to stop the other.

The teams combined for 625 yards — 358 for Miami, 267 for Iowa State — and 59 points by

SEE **IOWA/PAGE B2**

LOCAL SPORTS CALENDAR

TUESDAY, DEC. 31 No local events	Tournament, TBA Trimble Co. girls host Valley, 6 p.m.
WEDNESDAY, JAN. 1 No local events	Carroll Co. girls at Boone Co., 7:30 p.m. Madison girls host South Ripley, 7:30 p.m. Switzerland Co. girls at Batesville, 7:30 p.m. Trimble Co. boys host Valley, 7:30 p.m.
THURSDAY, JAN. 2 BASKETBALL Shawe girls, Edinburgh Tournament, TBA Carroll Co. boys hosts Walton-Verona, 7:30 p.m.	WRESTLING Madison, Switzerland Co. girls, IHSAA Sectionals at Floyd Central, 9 a.m.
FRIDAY, JAN. 3 BASKETBALL Shawe girls, Edinburgh	



David Campbell
Trimble County's Liam Taylor (1) and Rising Sun's Derriance Pitts battle for the Ball during the Kentuckiana Tournament at Trimble County on Friday.



David Campbell
Shawe's Gus Grote (10) and Carroll County's Karson Vaught (1) battle for a rebound during the Kentuckiana Tournament at Trimble County on Friday.

Shawe goes 2-1 to claim 2nd in Kentuckiana Shootout at Trimble

BY THE COURIER STAFF

Shawe Memorial gutted out a pair of wins and placed second in the six-team Kentuckiana Shootout at Trimble County High School over the weekend.

The Hilltoppers rallied to beat Carroll County 45-40 on Friday and closed out the tournament with a hard-fought 51-47 win over Trimble County in the final game on Saturday. In between, Shawe suffered a 51-34 loss to Eminence, the tourney winner.

"I am really proud of the boys," Shawe coach Dan Hambrick said. "We are fighting through some growing pains with some young players, but we see glimpses of what we could be."

Those growing pains were on display in the opener against Carroll County. Shawe led 12-11 after the first quarter but entered the half trailing 25-20 and eventually found itself down by 11 midway through the third quarter.

The Hilltoppers rallied, closing the gap to 33-30 by the end of the third

Carroll County, now 3-8 on the season, hosts Walton-Verona on Thursday and heads to Ludlow on Saturday.

and then pulled ahead in the fourth to win the game by five.

"I'm proud of the boys for pulling out the win tonight," Hambrick said. "It's tough to win on the road anytime but when you're playing in a shootout with Kentucky high schools in Kentucky it's going to be a battle."

Braiden Smith had 29 points to lead all scorers while Gus Grote chipped in six for Shawe. Cooper Gutman had 16 points for Carroll County and Blake Webster had 12.

Shawe then suffered a 51-34 loss to Eminence in the first game on Saturday. Smith had 17 points and Grote scored nine.

The Hilltoppers then battled through fatigue to knock off Trimble County in the finale to secure second place. Shawe trailed 28-14 early but once again rallied for the win.

"I didn't know if we had enough in the tank but

the boys battled the entire game," Hambrick said. "Braiden Smith had another good game for us with 15, but sophomore Cavaan Hambrick came off the bench firing — hitting six 3's to lead the us with 24 points. Gus Grote also had another great night with eight assists in our win."

The loss to Shawe was Trimble's only one of the tournament as the Raiders also went 2-1 on the weekend.

Trimble picked up a 59-48 win over Rising Sun on Friday afternoon. The Raiders caught fire early and led 21-8 after the first quarter and 39-18 at half-time before Rising Sun rallied, closing to within four in the fourth quarter until Trimble pulled away late for the win.

Hayden Webster scored 15 points, Dylan Penick had 12 and Ethan Keller scored 10 to lead Trimble County.

Trimble opened the tournament with an 87-49 win over Columbus Christian on Friday. No stats from the game were available.

Carroll County suffered a 51-45 loss to Rising Sun in the opening game on Saturday but closed the tournament with a 71-42 win over Columbus Christian. No stats for the games were available.

Eminence, which defeated Columbus Christian 81-39 and Rising Sun 71-34 finished 3-0 to win the tournament.

Shawe, now 4-5 on the season, travels to South Decatur on Saturday.

Trimble County, now 3-8 on the season, headed to Anderson County on Monday and hosts Valley on Friday as part of a boys-girls doubleheader. The Raiders then face Walton-Verona in the All "A" Classic Eighth Region Tournament at Owen County next Monday, Jan. 6.

Carroll County, now 3-8 on the season, hosts Walton-Verona on Thursday and heads to Ludlow on Saturday.



David Campbell
Shawe's Braiden Smith shoots a 3-pointer against Carroll County during the Kentuckiana Tournament at Trimble County on Friday.

Trimble girls go 1-2 at Berea

BY THE COURIER STAFF

Trimble County girls basketball went 1-2 in the Berea Holiday Classic over the weekend.

On Friday, Trimble lost 68-49 to Valley and Saturday the Raiders beat Henry

County 58-22. No stats on either game were available.

On Sunday, Trimble wrapped up the tournament with a 65-20 loss to Southwestern (Somerset). Kinsten Long had eight points for the Raiders and

Kendra Mahoney scored six.

Trimble, now 4-3 on the season, hosts Valley on Friday as part of a boys-girls doubleheader and travels to Owen County on Tuesday, Jan. 7.

Madison, Switzerland grapple at Connersville

BY THE COURIER STAFF

The boys wrestling teams from Madison and Switzerland County both competed in the Spartan Classic at Connersville over the weekend.

Madison had five wrestlers place and finished 11th as a team with 132 points. Switzerland had six placed and finished 13th with 126.5 points. Fishers won the 30-team invitational with 241 points and Greenfield Central was a close second with 236.5 points.

Drew Zuckschwerdt was the top finisher for Madison, going 4-1 and placing second at 126 pounds. Ayden Waggoner (190 pounds) finished fourth, Garrett Deuser (175) was fifth, and Trenton Bivens (132) and Brendan Bentz (144) each placed seventh. Segar Ralston (138), Zane Skinner (150) and Grayson Hughes (165) each went 3-2 on the day and Kieran Lock (113) went 1-2.

Peyton Richards went 4-1 and placed second at 138

pounds to lead Switzerland County. Gabe Rose (144) placed fourth, Leo Oatman (106), Ethan Rose (126), and Ethan Jones (150) each placed fifth and Michael Gross (113) was eighth. Ailan Hartley (120) went 3-2 on the day and Dakota Fields (132) went 2-2.

Both squads return to action on Saturday, Jan. 11. Madison hosts the Nick Shadday Invitational and Switzerland competes at Corydon.

Switzerland boys pick up win in own tourney

BY THE COURIER STAFF

Switzerland County boys basketball wrapped up its own Ryder Realty Holiday Classic with a win over East Central at home on Saturday.

The Pacers opened the tournament with a 62-58 loss to Cascade on Friday and followed that with a 64-59 loss to

Trinity Lutheran later that night. The Pacers then defeated East Central 47-46 on Saturday to claim seventh place.

No stats from any of the games were available.

Switzerland, now 5-3 on the season, hosts Class 2A No. 6 Providence on Saturday.

Carroll girls place 4th in own Browning Invite

BY THE COURIER STAFF

Carroll County girls basketball finished fourth in the Pam Browning Invitational held in Carrollton over the weekend.

The Panthers opened the tournament with 52-25 win over Iroquois in the opener on Thursday but suffered a close 49-48 loss to Ludlow in the semifinals. Carroll then lost 62-41 to Gallatin County in the third-place game.

Kelby Maiden scored 14 points and

Elle Spencer had 11 for Carroll in the win over Iroquois. Cloie McGuire and Mya Hall added nine points each for the Panthers.

Spencer had 23 points and McGuire scored 15 in the loss to Ludlow. No results for the Gallatin County game were available.

Carroll, now 4-6 on the season, travels to Boone County on Friday and hosts Woodford County on Tuesday, Jan. 7.

IOWA

FROM PAGE B1

halftime, which Miami ended holding a 31-28 lead. The only punt was by Iowa State's Tyler Perkins midway through the second quarter; he was cheered when he entered the field during a ping-pong game of a first half, the teams trading touchdowns like nothing.

Ward was 12 of 19 passing for 190 yards and three touchdowns in the first half, before Emory Williams took over to start the second half. Fletcher's 1-yard run midway through the third quarter put Miami up 38-28, but the Hurricanes managed only three points on their final three drives.

"To end the season this way, it's really fitting," Campbell said. "It really tells the character of this

team. Hard to find teams still in college football, but we've got one in Ames, Iowa."

TAKEAWAYS

Iowa State: The Cyclones had touchdown drives of 22, 75, 65 and 75 yards on their first four possessions — 237 yards in all. They had one touchdown and 110 yards in their next five possessions, not counting one that was only a kneel-down to end the half.

Miami: The Hurricanes were 50-0 since the start of 2000 when scoring at least 38 points and gaining at least 500 yards. They're 50-2 now — the loss to Syracuse that cost Miami a College Football Playoff berth ended the streak, and the Hurricanes lost despite 41 points and 524 yards on Saturday.

POLL IMPLICATIONS

If Miami remains in the AP Top 25, it'll make 2024

the first season since 2017 in which the Hurricanes appeared in every poll. Iowa State will end the season ranked for only the second time since 2000.

SCHOOL RECORD

Andy Borregales' field goal with 9:40 left gave Miami a 41-35 lead — giving him 11 points (five PATs, two field goals) on the day and 404 points in his career. That set a new Miami school record, one

more than Michael Badgley.

UP NEXT

Iowa State: Opens the 2025 season on Aug. 23 against Kansas State in Dublin, Ireland.

Miami: Opens the 2025 season at home against Notre Dame, sometime over Labor Day weekend. The date — anytime between Thursday, Aug. 28 and Monday, Sept. 1 — has not been finalized.

Burrow’s TD pass to Higgins in OT beats Broncos 30-24

BY MITCH STACY
ASSOCIATED PRESS

CINCINNATI — This time, near the very end of a mostly agonizing season, the Cincinnati Bengals made enough plays to win.

A familiar connection closed it out.

Joe Burrow threw his third touchdown pass to Tee Higgins with 1:07 left in overtime, and the Bengals kept their slim play-off hopes alive with a wild 30-24 win over the Denver Broncos on Saturday.

“This is one of the crazy ones I’ve been involved with in the NFL,” Burrow said. “It feels like we had a couple of those this year, and it’s nice to come out on top in one.”

After Denver’s second punt in overtime, Burrow completed a 31-yard pass to Higgins to the Denver 3, and then went back to the lanky receiver for the final play in Cincinnati’s fourth consecutive victory. Higgins finished with 11 receptions for 131 yards.

Cade York had a chance to win it for Cincinnati with about three minutes left in overtime, but his

33-yard field goal bounced off the left upright. Denver then went three-and-out, including a Bo Nix incompletion on third down, handing the ball right back to Burrow and the Bengals (8-8).

“Tough one to lose,” Denver coach Sean Payton said. “We had our opportunities. The will to compete and answer, it was pretty impressive. In the end, we didn’t make enough plays, and they did.”

It was the Bengals’ first win this season against a team with a winning record. They need another victory in their final game at Pittsburgh and some help from other teams to make it to the postseason for the first time since 2022.

“We know we can hang with anybody,” Burrow said. “We’ve proven that this year. We played everybody this year close. It’s just about making the plays down the stretch to win those games. Today we did. The last four weeks we have. We’ve got to continue to do it.”

The Broncos (9-7) would have secured an AFC wild card with a victory over the Bengals.



AP Photo/Jeff Dean

Cincinnati Bengals wide receiver Tee Higgins (5) reacts after making a catch during overtime of an NFL football game against the Denver Broncos on Saturday in Cincinnati.

They’ll have another opportunity to earn a postseason berth when they host Kansas City next weekend. A victory over the Chiefs also would eliminate the Bengals.

Burrow continued his stellar season, going 39 for 49 for 412 yards and three touchdowns, all to Higgins. Ja’Marr Chase finished with nine receptions for 102 yards.

Burrow has at least 250 yards passing and three touchdowns in eight straight games, extending his NFL record.

“I don’t know that anybody can stand on the field and watch Joe

Burrow and say he’s not the best player in the world,” Bengals coach Zac Taylor said.

Burrow’s 1-yard touchdown run gave Cincinnati a 24-17 lead with 1:29 left in regulation. On the play before Burrow’s TD, Chase Brown hurt his right ankle on an awkward slide while going down in an effort to help the Bengals run out the remaining time.

Brown’s injury stopped the clock, and Nix threw a spectacular 25-yard touchdown pass to a leaping Marvin Mims Jr. for the tying score with 8 seconds left.

Nix was 24 for 31 for 219 yards and three touchdowns with one interception. Mims finished with eight catches for 103 yards and two TDs.

THE BIG THREE

Burrow made full use of his two featured receivers. Burrow, Higgins and Chase made life difficult for the Broncos all game long.

“I just throw it where the defense tells me to,” Burrow said. “If they’re going to double Ja’Marr, I’m going to throw it to Tee. If Ja’Marr is going to get a

one-on-one, I’m going to throw it to him.”

Both receivers are in interesting contract situations. Chase was the NFL leader in receptions, yards receiving and receiving touchdowns going into Week 17. He is likely headed for a massive new contract that will make him one of the highest-paid receivers in the league. Higgins is playing under the franchise tag, and the Bengals may not want to pay what it will take to bring him back next season.

INJURIES

Broncos: CB Damarri Mathis left in the first quarter with a hamstring injury.

Bengals: Right tackle Amarius Mims left late in the first half with a hand injury.

UP NEXT

Broncos: Finish the regular season at home against the AFC West champions. The day and time for the game have yet to be announced.

Bengals: At Pittsburgh at a date and time still be determined. The Bengals lost to the Steelers 44-38 on Dec. 1.

Bengals stay confident ahead of Steelers showdown

BY MITCH STACY
ASSOCIATED PRESS

CINCINNATI — Saturday’s wild overtime win over the Denver Broncos was the most important in what has been a mostly disappointing season for the Cincinnati Bengals.

Not only did the Bengals (8-8) win their fourth straight for the first time this season and keep their slim play-off hopes alive, but they also finally made enough plays late to win a close game. Seven of their previous eight losses were by one score.

And Cincinnati also got a win over one of the league’s better teams. Its seven previous victories came against sub-.500 teams.

Joe Burrow, in the midst of the best season of his career, threw a 3-yard touchdown pass to Tee Higgins with 1:07 left in overtime to win it 30-24. The final drive followed two critical stops by the Cincinnati defense.

“We’ve known we had a good football team all along,” Bengals coach Zac Taylor said. “And those (close) games are disappointing that we came up short, but they didn’t change our process. They didn’t change what our guys believed in. We didn’t have to change everything we did. We still believed in what we were doing. And now we’ve won four in a row, and we have to make it five in a row.”

The playoffs are still a long shot. To get there, the Bengals will have to go into Pittsburgh and beat the Steelers next weekend in the regular-season finale and also count on other bubble teams losing.

WHAT’S WORKING

The Bengals are playing their best football of the season. Burrow, battered by the Denver pass rush, completed nearly 80% of his passes in piling up 412 yards and three touchdowns. It marked his eighth straight game with at least 250 yards and three touchdown passes, extending his NFL record. ... Receiver Ja’Marr Chase, who had nine catches for 102 yards against the Broncos, could fin-

ish the season with the receiving triple crown — most catches, yards and touchdowns.

WHAT NEEDS HELP

The offensive line continues to struggle, even with the return of starting left tackle Orlando Brown Jr. Burrow rarely had a clean pocket, was constantly on the run and was sacked seven times and hit 15 times.

STOCK UP

The Cincinnati defense, much maligned this season, forced two Denver punts in overtime. The second one led to the Bengals’ game-winning drive. Linebacker Germaine Pratt intercepted Bo Nix to end a Denver drive in the fourth quarter.

“For them to rise up and get those two stops and allow the offense a shot to go win it (is) big-time stuff,” Taylor said.

Higgins caught 11 passes for 131 yards and was the recipient of all three of Burrow’s touchdown passes.

“Everybody can see what kind of player he is,” Burrow said of Higgins, who is playing this season with the franchise tag. “He elevates us to a different level when he’s playing like that.”

STOCK DOWN

Kicker Cade York, who was signed in early December to fill in for the injured Evan McPherson, had a chance to win the game with 2:49 left in overtime, but his 33-yard field-goal attempt bounced off the left upright.

INJURIES

RB Chase Brown sprained his ankle in an awkward slide as the Bengals tried to run out the clock in regulation. ... OT Amarius Mims suffered an injury to his right hand.

Key number

499 — total yards by the Bengals against Denver.

NEXT STEPS

The Bengals finish the season at Pittsburgh. The Steelers beat them 44-38 on Dec. 1.

BY DAN GELSTON
ASSOCIATED PRESS

PHILADELPHIA — Saquon Barkley normally would have tossed his game-used cleats to the kid who asked for the pair as the star Philadelphia Eagles running back ran off the field and back to the locker room.

Sorry, kid. Not today.

Barkley kept his mucked-up cleats for good reason — he became the ninth running back in NFL history to top 2,000 yards rushing in a season, reaching the milestone with a 23-yard run in the fourth quarter of Sunday’s 41-7 win over the Dallas Cowboys.

That rush gave Barkley 2,005 yards with one game left and stuck him exactly 100 yards from Eric Dickerson’s record of 2,105, set in 1984 for the Los Angeles Rams. Barkley left the game after the run that got him past 2,000, finishing with 167 yards on 31 carries.

“We definitely knew what the number was to at least get 2,000,” Barkley said. “We weren’t leaving this field without at least accomplishing that. That’s not the words from me, that’s the words from the guys up front.”

Whether Dickerson likes it or not — and the Hall of Famer made clear last week he does not — Barkley is coming for the record next weekend against the New York Giants.

Well, maybe.

The Eagles have clinched the NFC East and least the No. 2 seed in the conference, making that game mostly meaningless. Coach Nick Sirianni could opt to rest Barkley to protect him from injury ahead of the playoffs.

“Whatever his decision is,

I’m all for it,” Barkley said. “If his mindset is, go out and try it, we’ll go out and try it. If his mindset is, let’s rest and get ready for this run, I’ll all for it, too.”

Sirianni simply said, “we’ll see.”

His backward hat askew, Barkley laughed when asked if he wanted to break the record in a delicious twist against his old team.

“I’m not overly trying to go get it,” Barkley said. “I’m not scared to. I would love to. But at the end of the day, we’ve got bigger things we’re focusing on.”

Barkley gets a shot at the record thanks to a 17th game of the season that Dickerson and the NFL did not have in 1984.

Derrick Henry was the last running back to exceed 2,000 yards. He had 2,027 for the Tennessee Titans in 2020. Minnesota running back Adrian Peterson ran for 2,097 yards in 2012, the second most in an NFL season.

Barkley, who left the Giants to sign a three-year deal with the Eagles for \$26 million guaranteed, also set the NFL mark Sunday for most yards rushing in a player’s first season with a new team.

He ran for 176 yards and a touchdown in his first career game against the Giants.

“I didn’t come here or sign here just to rush for 2,000 (yards) and break a record,” Barkley said. “I’m here to do something special.”

Barkley was drafted out of Penn State with the No. 2 overall pick in 2018. He was an instant success with New York and ran for 1,307 yards to his rookie season. Barkley ran for 5,211 yards and 35 touchdowns and had 288

receptions for 2,100 yards and 12 TDs in six years with the Giants.

He hit free agency after the Giants elected not to put a franchise tag on him.

“I was in the dark,” Barkley said. “You don’t know what’s going to happen, you don’t know where you’re going to be. Everything is kind of up in the air.”

His mission is clear — win a Super Bowl and maybe take down Dickerson.

Sporting his trademark goggles and Jheri curl, Dickerson had seven straight 1,000-yard seasons in the 1980s, and the Hall of Famer is widely considered one of the best running backs ever.

Dickerson finished with 13,259 yards, the ninth most in NFL history. Emmitt Smith holds the career record with 18,355 yards.

“I don’t think he’ll break it. But if he breaks it, he breaks it,” Dickerson told the Los Angeles Times. “Do I want him to break it? Absolutely not. I don’t pull no punches on that. But I’m not whining about it. He had 17 games to do it? Hey, football is football.”

In 1984, Dickerson topped 100 yards rushing 12 times to break O.J. Simpson’s 1973 record of 2,003 yards rushing in a season.

Simpson set his record in 14 games for the Buffalo Bills before the NFL expanded to 16 in 1978. The NFL moved to 17 games in 2021.

“The way football is right now, it’s kind of hard to rush for 2,000 yards in 14 games,” Barkley said. “So, whether it’s 16, whether it’s 17, it’s a feat that you can never take away from what I was able to do with the O-line. And only eight other players did it, so it’s a special moment.”

Lowly Giants beat Colts 45-33 to eliminate Indy from playoff race

BY TOM CANAVAN
ASSOCIATED PRESS

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. — Snapping a franchise-record 10-game losing streak, winning for the first time at home this season and ending the Indianapolis Colts’ slim playoff hopes Sunday didn’t salvage the season for the New York Giants.

The main positive in the 45-33 win that Drew Lock led with four touchdown passes and a late TD run was the Giants (3-13) got to walk off the field with smiles for the first time in months after a season of misery that will could lead to major changes.

Another factor from the win: New York no longer has control of the No. 1 overall pick in the draft.

Giants coach Brian Daboll, who has had two straight losing seasons following a playoff berth in 2022 in his first year, said that he was happy the team got a chance to celebrate after losing eight straight at MetLife Stadium.

“Those guys put a lot into it.

They come out, they grind every day. They have good attitudes,” Daboll said. “It’s never easy when you when are losing. But I’m proud of the character and all the people in the building, and I’m mostly happy for them.”

Lock, who threw two pick-6s in the loss to Atlanta a week ago, sandwiched touchdown passes of 31 and 59 yards to Malik Nabers around TD passes of 32 yards to Darius Slayton and 5 yards to Wan’Dale Robinson in leading the Giants (3-13) to their first win since beating Seattle on Oct. 6.

“I’ve won a lot in my life,” Slayton said. “I wouldn’t say I ever forget the feeling of winning, but, you know, obviously it’s nice to get that feeling back today.”

Ihmir Smith-Marsette had a 100-yard return on the second-half kickoff on a day the league’s worst offense set a season high for points.

Jonathan Taylor scored on runs of 3 and 26 yards for Indianapolis (7-9), while Joe Flacco, subbing for the injured Anthony

Richardson, threw touchdown passes of 13 yards to Alec Pierce and 7 yards to Michael Pittman, the last bringing the Colts within 35-33 with 6:38 left in the fourth quarter.

Lock, who finished 17 of 23 for 309 yards, clinched the game by leading a nine-play, 70-yard drive that he capped with a 5-yard run.

“It’s kudos to him,” said Nabers, who now has 104 catches for 1,140 yards and six touchdowns. “He looked over the film, found some things that he could get better on and did all that through the week, and it showed how good he can be.”

The 45 points were the most for New York since putting up 49 in a 52-49 loss to the Saints in 2015. It’s the Giants most in a win since a 45-14 rout against Washington in 2014 and most at home since a 52-27 win against the Saints in 2012.

The No. 6 overall pick in the draft, Nabers finished with seven catches for a career-high 171 yards.

“That’s why we drafted him, where we drafted him,” Daboll said. “I’ve been asked about it since training camp and I think the response has been, ‘He’s a pretty good football player.’”

Flacco was 26 of 38 for 330 yards with two interceptions, the second by rookie Dru Phillips shortly after Lock’s TD run. Taylor, who rushed for 218 yards in a win over Tennessee last week, finished with 125 yards on 32 carries. Pierce had six catches for 122 yards.

The Colts came into the game needing to win their final two games and also get help to make the playoffs.

“We had something to play for today and obviously we didn’t get it done,” Flacco said.

The Colts haven’t made the playoffs since posting an 11-5 record in 2020.

“It’s hard to explain,” said Colts coach Shane Steichen, who led the team to a 9-8 record in his first season in 2023. “We had to play a complete game. We

haven’t done it all year. We have to be on the same page, and to go out there like that is obviously not good enough.”

ROOKIES

Nabers and running back Tyrone Tracy become the third pair of rookies to have more than 1,000 yards from scrimmage in the same season. The previous duo was running back Reggie Bush and receiver Marques Colston of the Saints in 2006.

INJURIES

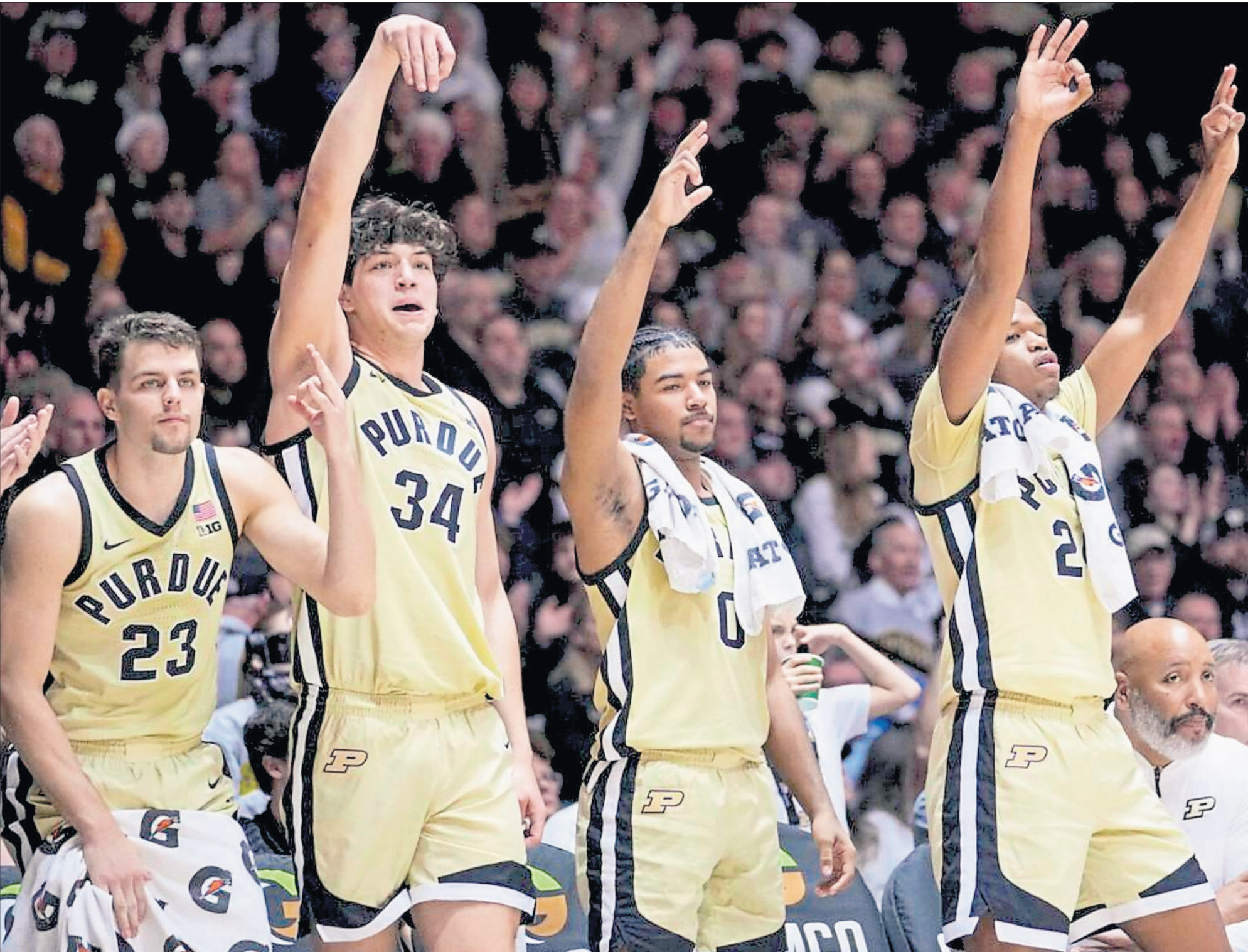
Colts: Richardson was inactive with foot and back injuries sustained against Tennessee.

Giants: DL Armon Watts (knee) was ruled out in the first half.

UP NEXT

Colts finish regular season by hosting Jacksonville.

Giants visit Philadelphia to face Saquon Barkley and the Eagles.



Purdue forward Camden Heide (23), forward Raleigh Burgess (34), guard C.J. Cox (0) and guard Gicarri Harris (24) celebrates on the bench during the second half of an NCAA college basketball game against Toledo in West Lafayette, Ind., Sunday.

Smith’s 34 pushes No. 21 Purdue past Toledo 83-64

BY MARK AMBROGI
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WEST LAFAYETTE — Braden Smith had 34 points and 12 assists Sunday night to lift No. 21 Purdue to an 83-64 victory over Toledo.

Smith sank 12 of 22 shots, including 6 of 13 from 3-point range, for the Boilermakers (9-4). Trey Kaufman-Renn contributed 23 points on 11-of-14 shooting and Fletcher Loyer

added 17 points for Purdue.

Smith scored 17 of his points in the opening half to guide Purdue to a 39-28 halftime advantage. Purdue used an 18-2 spurt to take a 28-14 lead with 5:39 left in the first half.

Sonny Wilson and Sam Lewis each scored 13 points, and Seth Hubbard 11 points for the Rockets (6-6). Lewis had a team-high 11 rebounds as Toledo outrebounded Purdue 40-33.

The Boilermakers shot 49.2% from the field, while the Rockets shot 40.6%. Purdue had a 15-2 edge in fast break points.

TAKEAWAYS

Toledo: The Rockets were able to hold their own scoring inside with a 34-28 edge in the paint but shot 2 for 14 from 3. Toledo made just 4 of 9 free throws in the first half, including two consecutive air balls by

Grgur Brcic.

Purdue: The Boilermakers rebounded from two straight losses to win their 32nd consecutive non-conference game at home. Purdue got most of their scoring from their top three season scorers: Smith, Kaufman-Renn and Loyer.

KEY MOMENT

After Toledo cut the deficit to 55-47 with 12:35 left, Smith hit a

driving layup to start a 17-2 run for Purdue.

KEY STAT

The Boilermakers sank 10 of 28 3-pointers while Toledo was 2 of 14 on 3-pointers.

UP NEXT

Purdue is at Minnesota Thursday while Toledo opens Mid-American Conference play at Western Michigan on Saturday.

Thornton scores career-high 33 as Ohio beats Indiana 103-83

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Bruce Thornton scored a career-high 33 points, four teammates also scored in double figures, and Ohio State stormed past Indiana State in the second half of a 103-83 victory on Sunday.

Thornton made 11 of 16 shots, 4 of 7 3-pointers, and 7 of 8 free throws for the Buckeyes (9-4). Ques Glover scored 15 points, Devin Royal and Aaron Bradshaw 13 each, and John Mobley Jr. 11.

The Buckeyes gradually extended their five-point halftime lead to 68-54 five

minutes into the second half. Their lead was 12 points with about 6 minutes remaining before Thornton’s personal 8-1 run put the game out of reach.

First, he drew a shooting foul, made both free throws and extended it to a four-point play when he made two more free throws after a technical foul on Indiana State’s Samage Teel. After a couple of layups by Thornton on ensuing possessions, the Buckeyes led 94-75 with 4 1/2 minutes remaining.

Jaden Daughtry scored 25 points on 7-of-10 shoot-

ing and 11 of 15 free throws for Indiana State (8-5). Teel scored 13 points, Camp Wagner 13 and K’mani Doughty 10.

The Sycamores made 9 of 20 3-pointers in the first half and finished 10 for 28. They average 11 made 3-pointers and 30 3-point attempts per game.

It was the first matchup between the two programs.

Up next for the Buckeyes is a three-games-in-seven-days stretch of Big Ten play, beginning with a home game against No. 18 Michigan State on Thursday.

Waterman’s last-second layup lets Cards deny ECU, 78-76

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — Noah Waterman powered to the basket with 1.2 seconds left for a layup that lifted Louisville to a hard-fought 78-76 victory over Eastern Kentucky on Saturday afternoon.

The Cardinals built a 10-point lead with a 12-0 run midway through the second half, but the Colonels stormed back and took the lead, 76-75 on a 3-pointer by George Kimble III with 1:22 left to play. Devontae Blanton missed a jumper that would have extended the lead and Louisville’s J’Vonne Hadley

rebounded with eight seconds left. Waterman then drove the baseline and scored between a sea of arms surrounding the rim.

If nothing else, the game proved that Eastern Kentucky (6-7) can take a punch. Louisville (8-5) went on a 15-4 first-half run to take a 42-27 lead with 3:41 left but the Colonels rallied to cut the deficit to 46-37 at the break. Jordan Crawford’s jumper with 9:49 left gave the Colonels a 61-59 lead but Waterman’s 3 started a 12-0 run to put Louisville up 71-61 with more than six minutes left.

Terrence Edwards Jr. finished with 20 points to lead Louisville and Hadley scored 15 points and grabbed 10 rebounds with three steals. Chucky Hepburn scored 14 points with six rebounds and seven assists and Waterman and Reyne Smith each scored 12 points. Louisville, which missed its first seven 3-point attempts to start the second half, finished 11 of 36 from deep.

Kimble led Eastern Kentucky with 24 points and Blanton added 22. Jackson Holt finished with 15 points.

RECORD

FROM PAGE B1

Christian Academy of Indiana. True hit five 3-pointers and scored 19 points to lead Madison while Harden and Mason

Davis scored nine points each. Both True and Davis were named to the all-tournament team.

Christian Academy led 12-9 after the first quarter and 17-12 at the half in the low-scoring game. The second half was played nearly even with the

Warriors pulling out the win in the end.

Joshua Renfro scored 28 points and David Cook had 17 for Christian Academy (7-3).

Madison played well but ultimately lost 85-62 to Class 3A No. 11 Brownstown in the second game of pool play on

Friday night.

The Cubs trailed only 14-12 after the first quarter, 35-24 at halftime and 62-48 after three quarters when Brownstown pulled away.

True again had a huge game, hitting 7-of-11 3-pointers and scoring 23 points to lead Mad-

ison. Harden hit five 3-pointers and scored 15 points and Carlos Salom had 10 points. The Cubs went 13-for-28 (46%) on 3-pointers and 5-of-12 on 2-pointers.

Madison, now 3-7 on the season, plays Friday, Jan. 10 when it hosts Scottsburg.

Rice scores 18 to lead IU over Winthrop 77-68

BLOOMINGTON — Myles Rice scored 18 points to lead Indiana to a 77-68 victory over Winthrop on Sunday.

Rice made 7 of 13 shots and all four of his free throws for the Hoosiers (10-3), who improved to 9-0 at home by holding the Eagles (10-5) scoreless over the final 3:16 to wrap up the victory. He added four rebounds, three assists and three steals.

Malik Reneau totaled 14 points and seven rebounds for Indiana. Trey Galoway added 11 points and five assists. Langdon Hatton had a game-high 11 rebounds to go with seven points off the bench.

K.J. Doucet and Kasen Harrison both scored 14 to lead Winthrop, which fell to 1-4 on the road. Doucet grabbed 12 rebounds for his third double-double of the season. Kelton Talford scored 13 and Paul Jones III and Nick Johnson added 10 points apiece.

Rice had 12 points in the first half to help Indiana take a 41-37 advantage into the break. Doucet had eight points and Harrison and Jones both scored seven to keep Winthrop close.

Luke Goode followed his basket with a three-point play to give Indiana a 54-47 lead with 15:15 left to play. Talford finished off a three-point play to get Winthrop within three with 11:34 to go. Reneau answered with a basket and Mackenzie Mgbako followed with a dunk as Indiana quickly pushed its lead back to seven.

Johnson buried a 3-pointer with 3:16 remaining to pull Winthrop within a point at 69-68, but the Eagles went scoreless from there.

Indiana will host Rutgers on Saturday in a Big Ten Conference matchup. Winthrop returns home to play South Carolina Upstate on Thursday in a Big South Conference opener.

Dickerson guides Robert Morris past NKU in triple OT

MOON TOWNSHIP, Pa. — Amari Dickerson had 27 points and 15 rebounds to help Robert Morris hold off Northern Kentucky 97-93 in triple overtime on Sunday.

Dickerson blocked five shots and had three steals for the Colonials (9-5, 1-2 Horizon League). Sophomore Alvaro Folgueiras scored 21 points and added a career-high 19 rebounds and six assists. DJ Smith had 13 points.

The Norse (7-7, 2-1) were led by LJ Wells, who finished with 19 points, 13 rebounds and two steals. Northern Kentucky also got 17 points and

six rebounds from Trey Robinson. Randall Pettus II had 17 points. The Norse saw a five-game win streak come to an end.

Dickerson’s dunk gave Robert Morris a 94-92 lead with 26 seconds left in the third OT. Dilen Miller made two free throws with 3 seconds left to wrap up the victory.

Josh Dilling made the second of two free throws with 8 seconds left for the Norse, forcing a second OT tied at 80. Wells hit a 3-pointer with 2:05 left and neither team scored after that, forcing the third OT tied at 86.

Franklin touts Saban for commissioner of college football

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. — Penn State coach James Franklin believes college football needs a commissioner and he even has a candidate in mind: former Alabama coach Nick Saban.

"I think he's the obvious choice, right?" Franklin said.

Franklin — who joked that Saban wouldn't be thrilled with his comment — made the suggestion on Sunday at Penn State's College Football Playoff quarterfinals media day ahead of the Fiesta Bowl. The sixth-seeded Nittany Lions are preparing for their game against No. 3 seed Boise State on Tuesday.

The veteran coach was responding to a question about Penn State's backup quarterback situation after Beau Pribula transferred to Missouri just weeks before the CFP began, leaving the Nittany Lions scrambling for options. Pribula's decision highlighted some of the frustrating aspects of a new college football world

SEE **SABAN/PAGE B6**



IN THE Jefferson Circuit COURT
CAUSE NO.
39C01-2412-MI-1157

STATE OF INDIANA
COUNT OF JEFFERSON
IN RE THE NAME CHANGE
OF:
Vicki Copeland
Petitioner

ORDER SETTING HEARING
Comes now Vick Copeland, pro se, having filed a Verified Petition for Change of Name, and the Court finds that the matter should be set for hearing.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that this matter shall be heard on February 11, 2025 at 11:30 am
So ORDERED
December 10, 2024

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LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF INDIANA
SS: COUNTY OF JEFFERSON

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
OF JEFFERSON COUNTY
ESTATE NUMBER: 39C01-24
12-EU-000086

IN THE MATTER OF THE UNSUPERVISED
ESTATE OF VIOLET GAYLE FEWELL, DECEASED.

William Joseph Jenner, JENNER, PATTISON & SHARPE,
508 E. Main Street, Madison, IN 47250; (812) 265-5132

NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF JEFFERSON COUNTY, INDIANA
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF VIOLET GAYLE FEWELL, DECEASED.

Notice is hereby given that Lane Gayle was, on the 20th day of December, 2024, appointed personal representative of the estate of Violet Gayle Fewell, deceased, who died on the 27th day of November, 2024.

All persons who have claims against this estate, whether or not now due, must file the claim in the office of the Clerk of this Court within three (3) months from the date of the first publication of this notice, or within nine (9) months after the decedent's death, whichever is earlier, or the claims will be forever barred. Dated at Madison, Indiana, this 20th day of December, 2024.

/s/ Tabatha Eblen
Clerk of the Circuit Court of Jefferson County, IN
(seal) hspaxlp

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Alcohol & Tobacco Commission LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Alcohol Beverage Board of Jefferson County, Indiana will hold a public hearing at 1:00 pm on January 13, 2025 at the Jefferson Co. Courthouse, 300 E Main, Commissioner's Room, in the city of Madison in said county, to investigate the propriety of holding an alcoholic beverage permit by the applicants listed herein to wit:

RH3923461 Beer Wine & Liquor - Hotel RENEWAL
RIVERBOAT INN CORPORATION 906 E FIRST ST Madison IN
D/B/A RIVERBOAT INN
KATHIE PETKOVIC 1260 SCENIC VIEW DR Madison, President
Marcus C Gray 1000 E Dugan Hollow Rd Madison, Secretary
RR3927563 Beer Wine & Liquor - Restaurant (210-1) RENEWAL

RUBEN PORTILLO 2455 LANIER DR Madison IN
D/B/A DIEGO'S MEXICAN GRILL
RR3940839 Beer Wine & Liquor - River & Lake RENEWAL

RIVER OAK CHOPHOUSE LLC 605 West Main Street Madison IN
D/B/A River Oak Chophouse
ELIZABETH RILEY 9119 W SR 250 Deputy, President
Troy Riley 9119 West State Road 250 Deputy, Secretary
hspaxlp

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Jeanty’s journey helped push Boise State into playoffs

BY JOHN MARSHALL
ASSOCIATED PRESS

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. — Ashton Jeanty’s athletic arc took him from the bowels of an Italian volcano to the Heisman Trophy stage in New York City.

As the son of a Navy chief petty officer, Jeanty bounced around as a kid, spending his football-formative years at a base in the farmland outside Naples, Italy. Playing teams from other bases required body-stiffening bus rides — 18 hours one way to Germany — but those early days shaped the man and player he is today as Boise State’s star running back.

“We talk about adapting in life and that’s what life is all about,” Jeanty said Sunday at Fiesta Bowl media day. “Dealing with change is

the hardest things humans do. Living over there helped me deal with change, see a lot of different things, have a lot of different experiences.”

Jeanty’s journey has pushed Boise State into the College Football Playoff for the first time, a rise that started with a national attention-grabbing at the 2007 Fiesta Bowl.

The third-seeded Broncos are back in the desert, this time to face No. 6 seed Penn State in the CFP quarterfinals. The outcome of the Fiesta Bowl on New Year’s Eve undoubtedly will come down to whether the Nittany Lions can stop Jeanty.

No one has been able to so far in one of the greatest seasons by a running back in college football history.

Jeanty enters the Fiesta Bowl needing 132 yards rushing to break Barry Sanders’ single-season NCAA record of 2,628 that’s stood since 1988. Jeanty’s 2,497 yards rushing are more than 115 FBS teams and he’s rushed for at least 200 yards six times, with a high of 267 against Georgia Southern in the season opener. He averages 192 yards rushing per game and led the nation with 30 touchdowns.

Jeanty was a unanimous All-American, swept the Maxwell and Doak Walker awards and finished second to Colorado’s Travis Hunter in the closest Heisman Trophy vote since 2009.

“It all starts and revolves around Jeanty,” Penn State coach James Franklin said.

“In any other year, the guy wins the Heisman and you can make the argument he should have won it this year.”

In other words, the Nittany Lions will have their hands full — or empty, if Jeanty has his way.

The 5-foot-9, 215-pound junior is like a ballerina in a bulldog’s body, leaving would-be tacklers in his wake with nearly every touch. Jeanty’s speed and agility often turn the best of angles into missed tackles. His power drops defenders on the turf like bowling pins, their only view the back of Jeanty’s No. 8 jersey as he heads for the next victim — or a touchdown.

Get a good hit on Jeanty and it still might not matter; he often bounces back

upright like a kid’s blowup bopper toy.

The combination allowed Jeanty to force an NCAA-record 143 missed tackles and gain an astonishing 1,889 yards after contact.

“The thing that just sticks out is he doesn’t go down,” Penn State defensive coordinator Tom Allen said. “I mean, he gets hit and he has tremendous balance. I just think the ability for him to break tackles is really phenomenal.”

Jeanty’s jaunt to college football’s biggest stage grew roots in Italy.

Born in Jacksonville, Florida, he spent part of his childhood in Virginia and played the final three years of high school football in Frisco, Texas. In between, he lived at the U.S. Navy Support Site in Grignano

Di Aversa, where the high school coach noticed his sheer power while playing basketball at lunch as a seventh grader.

Jeanty had to wait two years to play football — tackle wasn’t allowed for middle schoolers — but had an immediate impact, rushing for more than 1,200 yards and 17 touchdowns the final four games after switching to running back.

Now, about that volcano.

The Navy support site doesn’t have lights, so the school would sometimes use Carney Park military recreational facility inside a dormant volcano in nearby Pozzuoli.

“It was pretty cool but also kind of nerve-wracking,” Jeanty said.

Boise State’s opponents know the feeling.

Harris’ big run gives ECU 26-21 win

Brawl breaks out near end of Military Bowl

BY NOAH TRISTER
ASSOCIATED PRESS

ANNAPOLIS, Md. — Rahjai Harris broke free for an 86-yard touchdown run with 1:33 remaining, giving East Carolina a pulsating 26-21 victory over NC State in the Military Bowl in a game that descended into a wild brawl in the final minute.

Harris had 220 of ECU’s 326 yards rushing, and his sensational sprint near the end of the game gave the Pirates (8-5) the lead back after they’d blown a 13-point advantage in the fourth. After an interception by Dontavious Nash ended NC State’s final drive, East Carolina’s attempt to run out the clock was interrupted by a large-scale fight between the two in-state rivals — who play each other again to start next season.

Three players for ECU and five for NC State were ejected.

ECU (8-5) trailed 21-20 and took over the ball at its own 14, and after two incompletions, the Pirates decided to run the ball with Harris. He had a good hole to the left for a big gain, then cut back past the final defender on his way to the end zone.

“That was a good play call by them,” NC State coach Dave Doeren said. “They’re down one, third-and-10, you’re thinking they’re going to throw the football.”

CJ Bailey threw three touchdown passes for the Wolfpack (6-7), who rallied from a 20-7 deficit in the fourth. Bailey threw a 15-yard scoring strike to Justin Joly on fourth down, then NC State forced ECU’s first punt of the game and took the lead on a trick play.

Bailey handed off to Hollywood Smothers, then Smothers pitched to Keenan Jackson, who pitched the ball back to Bailey. The NC State quarterback quickly dumped the ball off to Smothers, who had plenty of blockers in

front of him and went all the way to the end zone for a 33-yard TD and a 21-20 lead.

It wasn’t enough as the ACC completed a desultory day. ACC teams are 1-9 in postseason bowls and playoff games this year after four more went down Saturday. North Carolina (Fenway), Boston College (Pinstripe), Miami (Pop Tarts) and NC State (Military) all lost.

Louisville, Duke and Virginia Tech still have games in the coming days for the league.

ECU quarterback Katin Houser opened the scoring with a 19-yard touchdown run. After an East Carolina field goal, Bailey got the Wolfpack on the board with an 8-yard scoring pass to Dacari Collins in the second quarter.

The Pirates led 13-7 at halftime and then drove for a touchdown to start the third quarter. After Houser’s 4-yard TD run, ECU lined up to go for 2, but after a delay of game penalty had to kick the extra point.

TAKEAWAYS

NC State: The Wolfpack put up a good battle in the final quarter, but ultimately NC State’s defense didn’t do enough on this day.

East Carolina: The Pirates have a lot to feel good about. They won five of their final six games after coach Mike Houston was fired. His replacement, Blake Harrell, was rewarded by having his interim tag removed, and this game showed why.

“How about Pirate nation just showing out tonight and packing the stadium,” Harrell said. “The purple and gold looked good up there.”

UP NEXT

NC State can feel a little better about the future after the way Bailey, a 6-foot-6 freshman, handled this game. The same is true for East Carolina with its new coach.

However, the brawl means both coaches have work to do keeping their players under control when they meet again in the 2025 opener.

SABAN

FROM PAGE B5

in the Name, Image and Likeness era and the transfer portal, forcing players to make tough decisions at inopportune times.

Franklin said that because there isn’t a leader dedicated solely to college football, conference commissioners are left to handle the task themselves. That’s led to bickering between the leagues because different conferences have different interests.

“I think one of the most important things that we can do is let’s get a commissioner of college football that is waking up every single morning and going to bed every single night, making decisions that’s in the best interest of college football,” Franklin said.

The 73-year-old Saban retired after last season as arguably the most successful college football coach of all time. He won seven national titles, including six at Alabama and one at LSU. He is now an analyst for ESPN’s “College GameDay.”

			TUESDAY EVENING											
	Jefferson Switzerland	Trimble/ Carroll	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10	10:30	11	
3	WAVE	6	2	WAV..	NBCN..	WAV..	News	St.Denis	Night	A Toast to 2024! (N)			WAV..	
4	WTTV	4		CBS4..	CBSN..	BigBa..	Sheldon	New Year's Eve Live (N) (Live)			CBS4..	New Year's (N)		
5	WLWT	2		News	NBCN..	WLWT	Hollyw..	St.Denis	Night	A Toast to 2024! (N)			News	
8	WISH	12		70th Ann		Inside..	ET (N)	WWE NXT (N)			News (N)		News	
9	WCPO	23		(3:00) Fo..	World..	News	Extra	Dick Clark's "Part 1" (N) (Live)			TBA	Dick Clark's (N)		
11	WHAS	11	4	(3:00) Fo..	World..	ET (N)	Inside..	Dick Clark's "Part 1" (N) (Live)			TBA	Dick Clark's (N)		
15	WKPC	13		Ameri..	Edition	PBS News (N)			NEXT (N)			Great Performances		BBCN..
19	WXIX	10		FOX19	FOX19	Wheel	Jeopar..	Kitchen Nightmares			FOX19 (N)		FOX19	
32	WLKY	5	5	News	CBSN..	Wheel	Jeopar..	New Year's Eve Live (N) (Live)			TBA	New Year's (N)		
34	WBKI	7	7	Neighb..	Conners	Sheldon	BigBa..	WWE NXT (N)			BigBa..	Sheldon	LastM..	
41	WDRB	8	9	News	News	FamFe..	FamFe..	Kitchen Nightmares			News (N) (Live)		News	
A&E	28	36		Road..	Road..	Road..	Road..	Road..	Road..	Road..	Road..	Road..	Road..	
AMC	29	26		(5:30) W ★ Vegas Vacation			W ★★ Caddyshack ('80)			W ★★★ Trading Places ('83)				
COM	45	59		Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Family..	
DISC	31	38		Moonshiners		Moonshiners		Moonshiners		Moonshiners		Moonshiners	Moons..	
DISN	25	29		(5:25) At	(25) W Big City Greens th...		W Descendants: Rise of R...			Place	Place	Bunk'd	Bunk'd	
ESPN	32	44		(3:30) Football		RamT..	Fiesta Bowl Penn State vs. Boise State (N) (Live)			Kickoff				
FREE	18	40		W ★★ Home Alone ('90)			Macaulay Culkin.			(25) W Home Alone 2: Lost in New York				
FX	40	28		Movie	W ★★★ Guardians of the Galaxy ('14)				W ★★★ The Avengers ('12)					
HBO	201	17		W ★★★ The Batman ('22)					Robert Pattinson.		Hard (N)		Hard Knocks	Movie
MAX	270	73		(10) W ★★★ Black Swan ('10)			W ★★★ I, Tonya ('17)			W ★★★ How I Live Now				
NEWSNTN	20	20		The Hill (N)		On Balance (N)		Cuomo (N)		NewsNation		Banfield (N)	NewsN..	
PARMT	35	41		(5:35) Y..	(45) Yellowstone		(50) Yellowstone		(55) Yellowstone		(05) Yellowstone			Yellow..
PARSHO	221	16		(5:00) W ★★★ Braveheart ('95)			Dexter: Sin			W ★★ The Fabulous Four		(45) W Bad Moms		
TMC	233	74		W ★ Last Voyage of the Demeter				W Sweeney Todd: Demon Barber ...			W ★★ Beau Is Afraid ('23)			
TNT	27	43		(5:00) NHL Hockey					Post-G..		W Willy Wonka & the Chocolate F...		Movie	
USA	26	33		Law-SVU		Law-SVU		Law-SVU		Law-SVU		Law-SVU		Law-S..

			WEDNESDAY EVENING											
		Jefferson Switzerland Trimble/ Carroll	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10	10:30	11	
3	WAVE	6	2	WAV..	NBCN..	WAV..	News	Chicago Med	Chicago Fire		Chicago P.D.		WAV..	
4	WTTV	4		CBS4..	CBSN..	BigBa..	Sheldon	NCIS: Origins	NCIS: Origins		NCIS: Origins		CBS4..	
5	WLWT	2		News	NBCN..	WLWT	Hollyw..	Chicago Med	Chicago Fire		Chicago P.D.		News	
8	WISH	12		News (N)		Inside..	ET (N)	Penn & Teller	Whose	Whose	News (N)		News	
9	WCPO	23		News	World..	News	Extra	Rock & Roll (N)					News	
11	WHAS	11	4	News	World..	ET (N)	Inside..	Rock & Roll (N)					News	
15	WKPC	13		Ameri..	Edition	PBS News (N)		Great Performances (N)		NEXT at the Kennedy			BBCN..	
19	WXIX	10		FOX19	FOX19	Wheel	Jeopar..	The Real Full Monty			FOX19 (N)		FOX19	
32	WLKY	5	5	News	CBSN..	Wheel	Jeopar..	NCIS: Origins	NCIS: Origins		NCIS: Origins		News	
34	WBKI	7	7	Neighb..	Conners	Sheldon	BigBa..	Penn & Teller	Whose	Whose	BigBa..	Sheldon	LastM..	
41	WDRB	8	9	News	News	FamFe..	FamFe..	The Real Full Monty			News (N) (Live)			News
A&E	28	36		The First 48		The First 48		The First 48		The First 48 (N)		Homicide (P)		First48
AMC	29	26		(15) 🏆🏆🏆🏆 Rocky III ('82)				(45) 🏆🏆🏆 Rocky IV ('85)				(45) 🏆🏆 Rocky V		
COM	45	59		Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Family..
DISC	31	38		Expedition		Expedition		Expedition		Expedition (N)		Mystery (N)		Expedi..
DISN	25	29		(5:20) 🏆 Zootopia		(10) 🏆🏆🏆🏆 Luca ('21) (P)		StuGo		(05) Kiff		Kiff	Kiff	StuGo
ESPN	32	44		(5:10) Rose Bowl Ohio State vs. Oregon (N)				(50) Sugar Bowl Notre Dame vs. Georgia (N)				(Live)		
FREE	18	40		(5:45) 🏆🏆🏆🏆 The Incredibles ('04)				(20) 🏆🏆🏆🏆 Incredibles 2 ('18) Craig T. Nelson.				700Club		
FX	40	28		(4:30) 🏆 Pirates of the Caribbean: A...				🏆🏆🏆 Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides				Movie		
HBO	201	17		(10) 🏆🏆🏆🏆 Civil War ('24)				🏆🏆🏆🏆 Dune: Part Two ('24)				🏆 Beetlejuice B...		
MAX	270	73		Movie		🏆🏆🏆 Morgan ('16)		🏆🏆🏆 Beowulf ('07) (P)			(55) 🏆 Kill Team		Movie	
NEWSNTN	20	20		The Hill (N)		On Balance (N)		Cuomo (N)		George Wil		Banfield (N)		Cuomo
PARMT	35	41		(5:30) Y..	(35) Yellowstone	(45) Yellowstone	(45) Yellowst.	"Three Fif..			(55) Yellowstone		Yellow..	
PARSHO	221	16		Movie 🏆🏆🏆🏆 Face/Off ('97) John Travolta.				🏆🏆🏆 Drive Angry (P)			(45) 🏆🏆🏆🏆 Pig			
TMC	233	74		(05) 🏆🏆 The Lovers ('14)				🏆🏆🏆 Cold Mountain ('03) Jude Law.				🏆 Jeanne du Ba...		
TNT	27	43		(4:45) 🏆 Star Wars: The Last Jedi				🏆🏆🏆 Star Wars: The Rise of Skywalker ('19)				Movie		
USA	26	33		Law-SVU		Law-SVU		Law-SVU		Law-SVU		Law-SVU		Law-S..

			THURSDAY EVENING										
	Jefferson Switzerland	Trimble/ Carroll	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10	10:30	11
3	WAVE	6	2	WAV..	NBCN..	WAV..	News	Law & Order	Law-SVU		Found		WAV..
4	WTTV	4		CBS4..	CBSN..	BigBa..	Sheldon	Georgie	Ghosts	Matlock	Matlock		CBS4..
5	WLWT	2		News	NBCN..	WLWT	Hollyw..	Law & Order	Law-SVU		Found		News
8	WISH	12		News (N)		Inside..	ET (N)	Police 24/7	Police 24/7		News (N)		News
9	WCPO	23		News	World..	News	Extra	Extreme (N) (P)	Murde..	Murde..	(20)	Murders	News
11	WHAS	11	4	News	World..	ET (N)	Inside..	Extreme (N) (P)	Murde..	Murde..	(20)	Murders	News
15	WKPC	13		Ameri..	Edition	PBS News (N)		Antiques	Doc Martin		Father (N)		BBCN..
19	WXIX	10		FOX19	FOX19	Wheel	Jeopar..	Kitchen (N)	Animal	Dutch	FOX19 (N)		FOX19
32	WLKY	5	5	News	CBSN..	Wheel	Jeopar..	Georgie	Ghosts	Matlock	Matlock		News
34	WBKI	7	7	Neighb..	Conners	Sheldon	BigBa..	Police 24/7	Police 24/7		BigBa..	Sheldon	LastM..
41	WDRB	8	9	News	News	FamFe..	FamFe..	Kitchen (N)	Animal	Dutch	News (N) (Live)		News
A&E		28	36	The First 48		The First 48		The First 48		Homicide		Hunters (N) (P)	First48
AMC		29	26	(5:00) W Rocky IV		W ★★ Shooter ('07)		Michael Peña, Mark Wahlberg.		W ★★ Escape Plan ('13)			
COM		45	59	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Family..
DISC		31	38	Afraid		Afraid		Afraid "Unbreakable"		Afraid "The Labyrinth"		Afraid	
DISN		25	29	Bluey	Big City	BigCity	StuGo	W ★★★ The Incredibles ('04)			Hamst..	Hamst..	Place
ESPN		32	44	(4:00) Football		SportC..	Footba	TaxSlayer	Gator Bowl: Duke vs. Ole Miss (N) (Live)	SportC..			
FREE		18	40	(5:00) W Spider-Man: Far From Ho...		(55) W ★★★★ Spider-Man: No Way Home ('21)		700Club					
FX		40	28	(5:30) W The Day After Tomorrow		W ★★ Eternals ('21)		Salma Hayek, Angelina Jolie.					
HBO		201	17	(05) W The Imitation Game (P)		W ★★★★ Call Me by Your Name (P)		(15) W ★★ Jason Bourne					
MAX		270	73	(5:30) W ★★★★ Inherent Vice ('14)		W ★★★★ Parasite ('19)		W Blackcoat's Daughter					
NEWSNTN		20	20	The Hill (N)		On Balance (N)		Cuomo (N)		Dan Abrams		Banfield (N)	Cuomo
PARMT		35	41	TwoM..	TwoM..	W ★★ Jack Reacher ('12) Tom Cruise.				The Agency		Agency	
PARSHO		221	16	(4:30) W Defiance		W ★★★★ The Hateful Eight ('15) Samuel L. Jackson.		W The Dead Don't Hurt					
TMC		233	74	(1:00) W ★★ Pelé: Birth of a Legend		W ★★ Drop Zone ('94)		(45) W ★★ Universal Soldier ('92)					
TNT		27	43	(3:55) W Star Wa...		Tip-Off		NBA Basketball		NBA Basketball			
USA		26	33	Law-SVU		Law-SVU		W ★★★★ Cast Away Helen Hunt, Tom Hanks.				Movie	

THE Daily Commuter Puzzle

by Stella Zawistowski

ACROSS

1 Drink noisily

6 Rapid

10 Lower part of the leg

14 "In ___ news..."

15 Salt Lake City's state

16 Opera solo song

17 40-40 in tennis

18 Italy's capital

19 Rip

20 Phrase said at midnight: 3 wds.

23 Actor Mineo

24 "On ___ Majesty's Secret Service"

25 In the middle

29 Snaps: 2 wds.

33 Chicken ___ king: 2 wds.

34 ___ Gay (WWII plane)

36 Be bold

37 Film graphics tech: Abbr.

38 Weird

41 Text-message giggle: Abbr.

42 Work the soil

44 Reside

45 "Weekend Update" show: Abbr.

46 Shoe accessories

49 Chilean fish: 2 wds.

51 What we breathe

52 Gorilla, e.g.

53 Brit celebrity chef: 2 wds.

59 1969 NASA destination

60 Sheep product

61 Not skilled

64 Loaf or loll

65 "What ___ can I say?"

66 Stealthy warrior

67 Ran in the wash

68 Produces eggs

69 Painting surface

DOWN

1 Roll of turf

2 Cellular standard: Abbr.

3 "No way!"

4 Found new actors for

5 Gets ready

6 Extreme anger

7 Lots: 2 wds.

8 Identical

9 "Baba O'Riley" band: 2 wds.

10 Provided food for

11 Field of study

12 Teller of falsehoods

13 Not near

21 Flower or fern

22 "Sure!"

25 Prickly 21-Down

26 Baylor of basketball

27 Like ___ on a chalkboard

28 Noblemen

29 Country roads

30 Latin dance

31 Some golf clubs

32 Tattles

35 Piece of legislation

39 Glisten

40 Going by

43 Highly educated

47 Get ___ of

48 Cement-laying tool

50 Propeller hat

53 Soccer score

54 Seep slowly

55 The Big Easy

56 Optimistic

57 Pub beers

58 Yearnings

59 Group with Reds and Red Sox: Abbr.

62 Nightclothes, for short

63 Chinese philosophy

Created by Stella Zawistowski

12/31/24

Today's Puzzle Solved

O	S	E	G		S	A	V	T		D	E	T	B
V	I	N	I		E	S	T	E		E	Z	V	T
L	D	E	N	I		T	O	O	M		N	O	O
		A	V	S	W	V	R	N	O	D	R	O	G
		E	d	V				R	I	V			
S	S	V	B	V	E	S		S	L	R	E	S	N
T	N	S		T	E	M	D		T	T	I	L	
T	O	T		E	G	N	V	R	L	S		I	G
E	R	V	D			V	T	O	N	E		V	T
L	I	S	E	S	O	T		T	V	R	L	N	E
		R	E	H				T	V	S			
R	V	E		A	M	E	N	A	P	d	V	H	
R	V	E	L		E	W	O	R		E	C	N	E
V	I	R	V		H	V	L	N		R	E	H	L
F	T	V	C		L	S	A	F		P	d	N	T

Sisters use pets as excuse for never visiting

Dear Eric: For about 20 years, my husband and I and our two boys traveled usually by car to visit my sisters. They never visited us. The drive to their state was 14 hours long and was not fun or cheap, but we did it mostly because of my elderly mother who couldn't travel (lived with one sister). I have a fear of flying, so we had to drive.

After my mother died, both sisters moved to another state together along with their three cats and one dog. They're still 11 hours away by car. My husband and I have made the trip about six times to visit them in the last three years, but we recently told them that the drive was not as easy as it used to be since we're getting older.

When we approached them about driving or flying to visit us for a change, they immediately shot down the idea. ("We can't travel because of the pets!" or "That's a long drive with pets!") They refuse to kennel their pets.

Now, one sister casually told us that unless we move to their state or drive/fly to visit, we probably won't see them anymore, but they have an open guest room for us anytime we want to visit. I was stunned and hurt when I heard this

ultimatum. I'm trying to see their side of this situation, but all I keep coming up with is that my family and I are way less important to them than their pets.

— Missing Sister

Dear Sister: The best way to see their side is to tell them how you felt when they gave you the ultimatum and ask them to help you understand. Try to put aside the imbalance you feel — all those trips you made with none made in return. Speak from the present — this is what's going on with you now; how can you all move forward? What they have to say may not be satisfying and may not allay your hurt, but at the least it frees you from having to piece together the narrative.

The way they put the ultimatum certainly feels callous. Perhaps that's just who they are, but resigning themselves to never seeing their sister again suggests that there's pain behind the decision or a feeling of helplessness. Hopefully your conversation can draw that out, so you have a better understanding all around.

I wonder why one can't visit while the other minds the pets. I also wonder if they have fears or challenges around travel. Perhaps you wonder about those things, too. Asking them directly what's going on and what they're feeling about you and about family togetherness is the only way to really know.



R. ERIC THOMAS
ASKING ERIC

SUDOKU

		5	8	2				3	
					9	6			
1		2			8	6			
					4				3
	2	5				8	6		
8			1						
		1	3			5			6
			6	2					
	6				5	9	8		

2	8	6	9	1	4	8	9	2
4	1	8	2	9	6	8	5	7
9	2	9	6	8	8	1	4	5
2	6	4	2	9	1	9	8	8
1	9	8	8	2	6	9	2	4
8	9	2	4	9	8	2	1	6
9	4	9	8	8	2	2	6	1
8	2	1	9	6	9	4	2	8
6	8	2	1	4	2	8	9	9

ASTROLOGY

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — As the year ends, you might be able to gain insights on how to enhance your reputation or position in the community. Reflect on areas of your life that need improvement. Resolve to make positive changes for the good of all.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — Spread your social butterfly wings. You may be far more comfortable in a group than on your own now, you could have a lot more fun if you invite a few friends along. Consider popping a cork as you watch the fireworks.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — You may thrive in social settings, so consider making the most of holiday events. Someone close to your heart might inspire you to create something wonderful. Social activities could place you in close contact with a group of fun-loving people.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — It may be time to shake things up. Some long-term goals that once seemed important might now feel like dead ends. Reassess your priorities and create a new plan that reflects your current growth, maturity, and interests.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — Your joy and happiness battery might need a recharge. For your New Year's resolution, consider thinking about ways to have last-fun and make your routine more efficient. Information sessions at an event might reveal all sorts of important details.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Old acquaintances shouldn't be forgotten. You might receive an unexpected blast from the past as an old friend crosses your path during your holiday rounds. Consider staying up to watch the clock strike twelve with a special someone.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) — Aim for nothing less than the best you can get. As you set your New Year's resolutions, think about including your close friends and loved ones. While solitude can bring insights, you may not want to be alone as the New Year begins.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) — You're capable of achieving great success on your own, though you might still value the help and guidance of others. You may reminisce about the good old days as the New Year arrives. Show your appreciation for supportive companions.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) — Make the most of quality time. Tonight, you could have a rare chance to create lasting memories with your close-knit circle. Share good times and high spirits with everyone you encounter and welcome in the New Year.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Digging deep could uncover gold. A probing conversation might reveal what delights the object of your heart's desire. As the New Year approaches, it could take a little more patience and effort to ignite the fires of passion with someone.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) — Some holiday vacation time may have given you an abundance of energy. You may avoid interpersonal fireworks or feeling envious by going outside for some fresh air. Spending time with friends and family could increase holiday cheer.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) — The holiday season might offer plenty of opportunities. You could uncover valuable information at community gatherings or the local pubs. In any social situation, you might be likely to make new friends or connect with valuable contacts.

THE Daily Commuter Puzzle

by Stella Zawistowski

ACROSS

1 Design details, for short

6 Military installation

10 Some underwear

14 Swing around

15 ___ code

16 Feel-good movie

17 Work with arias and choruses

18 Back section

19 ___ vera gel

20 "Airedale" dog

22 Very harsh

24 Irrate feeling

26 Irritated

27 Like skyscrapers

30 Spectacles

33 Las Vegas WNBA team

34 In the ___ (for now)

38 Is able to

39 Part of a jacket

41 Little bit

42 Lake between Bolivia and Peru

45 Enjoy a magazine

46 Vandalized, perhaps

49 TV award

50 Following

53 School tests

55 Says "not guilty," say

57 Part of a monogram

61 Opinion survey

62 Chimps and gorillas

65 Gymnast Comaneci

66 Slow period

67 Chair or stool

68 Current fashion

69 Site for selling crafts

70 Fezzes and fedoras

71 Numerical data, for short

DOWN

1 Dalmatian feature

2 Tobacco holder

3 "If you ___ need me, call"

4 Ranch enclosures

5 Discoloration

6 Large beer container

7 "___ you for real?"

8 Big body of water

9 Servings of corn

10 Most courageous

11 Fancy watch brand

12 Love in Italian

13 Move quickly

21 Custard ingredient

23 Tied up

25 Destructive spree

27 Good people skills

28 "Superfood" berry

29 Loaned

31 Notice

32 "My Gal ___" (1942 film)

35 Menu listing

36 Respectful title

37 Swirl of water

39 On the ___ (fleeing)

40 "Obamacare": Abbr.

43 In the best case

44 Part of a deck

45 Begin again

47 Is real

48 Author Brown

50 iPhone maker

51 Openly disregard

52 Narrates

54 Breath fresheners

56 Pageant accessory

58 Notion

59 "___ Too Proud to Beg"

60 Young boys

63 Pod veggie

64 Consume

Created by Stella Zawistowski

1/1/25

Today's Puzzle Solved

S	L	V	L	S		S	L	V	H		A	S	L	E
D	N	E	I	N		L	V	E	S		T	T	N	T
V	I	D	V	N		E	D	V		T	T	O	D	
T	V	I	L	I	N	I		S	D	V	E	T	d	
		S	W	V	X	E		R	E	L	F	V		
A	W	M	E		D	E	G	V	W	V	D			
D	V	E				V	D	V	O	I	L	I	L	
D	V	L			T	E	D	V	T		N	V	O	
E	W	I	L	N	V	E	W			S	E	C	V	
		S	E	S	S	V	T	G		T	T	V	L	
D	E	X	E	A		R	E	G	N	V				
E	O	E	A	S		R	E	I	R	E	E	L		
E	O	T	V		R	V	E	R		V	R	E	D	O
d	W	O	R	V	E	R	V		L	O	A	I	d	
S	V	R	B	E	S	V	B		S	C	E	d	S	

Husband won't let kids have friends inside house

Dear Eric: My husband has told our kids they cannot have any friends inside of our home. They can play in the front yard, and that is it. I don't know how to tackle this or what to say when it's our "turn" to host our kids' friends. I've been hosting the friends to movies, arcades, etc.

My husband is retired and seems to prefer always being home and away from others. I accepted this when we married because he is fine with me going and being around people, if needed.

We didn't have children until we'd been married for several years. Now I'm worried that our kids will suffer from this odd rule. His family did not have what I consider traditional habits like eating meals together, spending holidays together or things that my kids and family enjoy.

I don't want to alienate my husband by forcing him to help host. I love him and understand he's not social, but I also want my kids to be able to play the host role. I think this is an important social skill (they are 11 years old). Any suggestions?

— Home Alone Kids

Dear Kids: Part of this is about negotiating the shared responsibility of parenting. I worry that you're taking on more of that responsibility

than you should have to and that your husband, perhaps, isn't supporting you in the shared goal of making sure your children develop socially.

If you both agree that having friends will help your children, feel a sense of belonging, develop cognitively and improve their social skills, and that being able to know your children's friends will help you both be better parents, then you owe it to each other to talk about how that can happen.

It would be helpful to point out that you're still planning outings. Is this something that he can help with? Many parents are introverted and/or don't want a house full of their kids' friends. That's perfectly fine. A child's

development doesn't require having friends over inside. But friendship is important, and the ways that they maintain those friendships will grow and change as they enter their teen years.

This is a great opportunity for you and your husband to reassess the ways that parenting is changing for you and to realign the ways that you do this as a team. Don't let other people's expectations of you and your children's social calendars dictate this conversation. Instead, be open about what's important to you — be it having friends over when he's not home or simply having more meals together. He doesn't have to be social, but the people in his home have needs, too. He can, and should, show up.



R. ERIC THOMAS
ASKING ERIC

SUDOKU

		3		7		1		
				1	3	4		
4	1							
3					9	6		1
7								8
1		2	8			5		3
							9	6
				6	5			
		7		2		3		

9	8	8	1	2	6	2	4	9
2	1	2	9	9	4	6	8	8
9	6	4	2	8	8	1	9	2
8	2	9	9	4	8	2	6	1
8	4	6	8	1	2	9	9	2
1	2	9	6	9	2	4	8	8
2	8	8	2	6	9	9	1	4
6	9	2	4	8	1	8	2	9
4	5	1	8	7	9	8	2	6

ASTROLOGY

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — The New Year has arrived so make it memorable by spending time with loved ones and friends. Rather than letting distractions delay your progress, commit yourself to fully following your dreams and goals this year.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — Resolve that in the year ahead, you might finally weave the fabric of your life in some new, improved, and different ways. Identify any gaps in your education, resources, or skills that need attention, and work on upgrading them.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — New Year's resolutions might feel like an endless revolving door, sometimes bringing you back to where you first started. The answers to your prayers might not come when you expect them, but they should arrive when you need them.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — The New Year might energize your goal-setting side. Create a list and prioritize both your long-term and short-term goals. The cold shoulder you've imagined you felt from someone could soon warm up like an electric blanket.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — Resolve to rein in your lower-vibration instincts and to be more forgiving. Your competitive nature might tempt you to take too many risks. Sometimes, exercising caution could be more beneficial than rushing head on into the fire without a plan.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — The most important things in life aren't things. Your partner or companion may be looking for tangible support rather than sympathy. Focus on the most significant aspects of your life, rather than getting caught up in non-essentials parts.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) — Just be your most

authentic self. You could win someone over much more easily by being genuine rather than by putting up a false front. Hiding behind an illusion gets old fast and won't last for long because others may quickly see through it.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) — The unknown will captivate you. Whether it's getting to know the intricacies of a fascinating new acquaintance or exploring uncharted locations. Your New Year's resolution could involve finding ways to make acceptable compromises.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) — Aim for nothing less than the best. As you set your New Year's resolutions, think about ways to include your friends and loved ones. Start the year by fostering harmony in your environment and sharing both your money and values.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Wipe the slate clean. Start the New Year by making amends, putting past animosities behind you, and moving forward. Resolve to change the things that may have hindered your progress. There's no limit to what you can achieve in the future.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) — Burn off those holiday calories by taking a walk, lifting weights, or dancing. Consider sharing your New Year's resolutions with someone special. You could have the most fun with those who can match your quick pace and energy today.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) — As you consider your New Year's resolutions, remember to be kind to yourself. There's always room for improvement, but you don't need to be overly critical. This year, prioritize your long-term goals and create an action plan.

Pacers rebound from 37-point loss to Celtics to win rematch

BY KEN POWTAK
ASSOCIATED PRESS

BOSTON — Tyrese Haliburton scored 31 points and the Indiana Pacers rebounded from a 37-point loss to Boston two nights earlier by beating the Celtics 123-114 on Sunday night in the rematch.

Andrew Nembhard, who returned after missing Friday's game with tendinitis

in his left knee, added 17 points, eight rebounds and eight assists for the Pacers. Pascal Siakam chipped in with 17 points and Benne-dict Mathurin had 14.

Jaylen Brown led Boston with 31 points and six assists. Jayson Tatum had 22 points, nine boards and six assists. Payton Pritchard added 21 points and Der-rick White scored 17.

The Celtics lost their sixth game at home already this season. Last season, they went 37-4 at TD Garden during the reg-ular season and 9-2 in the playoffs en route to the NBA championship.

TAKEAWAYS
Pacers: Coming off a blowout loss, coach Rick Carlisle wanted to see his

team respond by getting off to a physical start. The Pacers went inside instead of setting for jumpers and outscored Boston 66-48 in the paint to make up for the loss of injured forward Obi Toppin (sprained left ankle).

Celtics: After coasting to the lopsided win on Friday when they hit 23 3-pointers, they followed that by going

only 16 of 54 from beyond the arc while missing start-ers Jrue Holiday (shoulder injury) and Kristaps Por-zingis (sprained left ankle).

KEY MOMENT
The Celtics had whit-tled an 11-point deficit to 105-103 on Tatum's three-point play with 7:38 to play before the Pacers scored the next 13 points over

nearly two minutes to take control.

KEY STAT
Indiana made 22 free throws to just 16 for Bos-ton.

UP NEXT
The Pacers host the Bucks this afternoon to close out the 2024 portion of their season.

Bowers sets NFL rookie records as the Raiders roll over Saints

BY BRETT MARTEL
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW ORLEANS — Aidan O'Connell passed for two touchdowns, tight end Brock Bowers broke two rookie NFL records, and the Las Vegas Raid-ers won for just the fourth time this season, 25-10 over the struggling New Orleans Saints on Sun-day.

Bowers' seven catches for 77 yards gave him 108 receptions for 1,144 yards this season, eclipsing Mike Ditka's 1961 rookie tight end mark of 1,067 yards receiving and Puka Nacua's 2023 mark of 105 catches by a rookie at any position. Bowers also surpassed

Darren Waller's franchise mark of 107 receptions in a season, which had stood since 2020.

Ameer Abdullah rushed for 115 yards for the Raid-ers (4-12) — the journey-man running back's first 100-yard game in his 10 NFL seasons.

O'Connell finished with 242 yards passing, includ-ing a 3-yard TD pass to Jakobi Meyers and an 18-yarder to Tre Tucker.

Daniel Carlson kicked four field goals — his long-est from 54 yards — for the Raiders, who didn't look fazed by flight delays on Saturday that got them into their hotel after mid-night, less than 12 hours

before kickoff.

With former Raiders QB Derek Carr unable to suit up for the Saints (5-11) because of his injured left, non-throwing hand, rookie Spencer Rattler received his fifth career start. He remained winless as a starter after complet-ing 20 of 36 passes for 218 yards and one TD with two interceptions.

Rattler also rushed for 46 yards to finish as New Orleans' leading rush-er for a second straight week.

The Saints used trick-ery to take an early 7-3 lead. Running back Kend-re Miller took what looked like a toss sweep to the

right before throwing a lateral back to his left, where Rattler caught it and threw 30 yards down-field to wide-open tight end Foster Moreau in the end zone.

Las Vegas moved in front for good on O'Con-nell's short scoring pass to Meyers with a minute left in the second quarter.

INJURIES
Saints: Miller left the game with concussion symptoms in the second quarter. LB Jaylan Ford appeared to suffer a seri-ous lower right leg inju-ry on punt coverage in the fourth quarter. DE Payton Turner left with an ankle injury. WR Mar-quez Valdes-Scantling

was treated on the field late in the game — but walked off on his own — after a hard collision over the middle.


UP NEXT
Raiders: Host the Los Angeles Chargers on Sun-day.
Saints: Visit Tampa Bay on Sunday.

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